Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses

This version of the Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses is current as at 2 September, 2020

You should note that this Deed can be varied with the approval of all the Parties (see clause 17). Please contact Plant Health Australia to confirm whether this document is the most current version before relying on the information contained.

Mailing Address: Level 1, 1 Phipps Close
DEAKIN, ACT 2600

Phone: +61 2 6215 7700
Email: epprd@phau.com.au
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parties</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operative provisions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Interpretation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Definitions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Interpretation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Term of this Deed</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Commencement Date, Operative Date and ending date</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Review</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Continuing provisions</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Admission, withdrawal and removal of Parties and representation of a Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Application for Admission</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Admission</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Withdrawal of a Party from the Deed</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 Replacement of an Industry Party</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 Removal</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6 Representation of a Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Reporting of Emergency Plant Pests</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Obligation to advise of an EPP within 24 hours</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Effect of failure of a State or Territory Party to advise of an EPP within 24 hours</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Phases of an Emergency Plant Pest Response</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1 Incident Definition Phase</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Emergency Response Phase</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3 Proof of Freedom Phase</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4 Transition to Management Phase</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5 New outbreaks</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Developing a Response Plan</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1 Procedure</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2 Standards</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Categories of Emergency Plant Pests</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1 The four categories of EPPs</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2 Determination of applicable category and Funding Weight for an uncategorised EPP</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.3 Re-categorisation, removal or review of Funding Weight of EPPs</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Management of a Response Plan</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1 Implementation</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8.2 Qualification of Personnel ........................................................................................................ 21

9 Principles of Cost Sharing ........................................................................................................ 21
9.1 Cost Sharing - Incident Definition Phase ............................................................................. 21
9.3 Cost Sharing - Uncategorised Plant Pest ............................................................................ 22
9.4 Changing Cost Sharing proportions .................................................................................... 23
9.5 Limits to Parties Cost Sharing obligations in respect of a Response Plan .................................. 23
9.6 Additional costs which are subject to Cost Sharing ........................................................... 25
9.7 Plant Health Australia costs of a Response Plan ............................................................... 25
9.8 No litigation on Owner Reimbursement Costs ..................................................................... 26

10 Funding a Response Plan ...................................................................................................... 26
10.1 General obligation of the Parties ....................................................................................... 26
10.2 Initial funding by Parties .................................................................................................... 26
10.3 Progressive Cost Sharing .................................................................................................. 26
10.4 Mechanism for Industry Party to meet its Cost Sharing obligations ..................................... 26
10.5 Mechanism for determining Response Plan costs ............................................................. 27
10.6 Determination of final costs of responding to an Incident .................................................. 27
10.7 GST ..................................................................................................................................... 27

11 Consultation ............................................................................................................................ 28
11.1 The NMG ............................................................................................................................ 28
11.2 The CCEPP ......................................................................................................................... 28
11.3 The Categorisation Group .................................................................................................. 28
11.4 Industry Party representation ............................................................................................ 28
11.5 Plant Health Australia ......................................................................................................... 28
11.6 Representation of government Parties ................................................................................. 29

12 Accounting for a Response Plan ........................................................................................... 29
12.1 Keeping accounts ............................................................................................................... 29
12.2 Reporting ........................................................................................................................... 30
12.3 Efficiency and effectiveness of a Response Plan ................................................................. 30
12.4 Financial Audit .................................................................................................................... 30

13 Biosecurity .................................................................................................................................. 30

14 Commitment of Government Party Resources to EPP Response Capacity ................................ 32

15 Obligations in respect of personnel ....................................................................................... 32

16 Amendment of Schedules ........................................................................................................ 32

17 Variation or Termination ........................................................................................................... 33
17.1 Varying or terminating Deed .............................................................................................. 33
17.2 Variation or termination in writing ..................................................................................... 33
17.3 Position of Plant Health Australia ...................................................................................... 34

18 Severability .............................................................................................................................. 34
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Waiver</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Proper Law</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>Jurisdiction of the Courts</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>High Court of Australia</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>State and Territory Laws apply to the conduct of a Response Plan</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Further Assurance</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Counterparts</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Entire Agreement</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>Notice of Disputes</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>Resolution of Disputes</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Exercise of Functions and Powers</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Protection of Personal Information</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>Use of Personal Information</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.2</td>
<td>Meaning of Personal Information</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Confidentiality</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Conflict of interest</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.1</td>
<td>Plant Health Australia obligations</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Notices</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.1</td>
<td>Service of Notices</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.2</td>
<td>Deemed time of service of Notices</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Intellectual Property</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE OF SCHEDULES

Schedule 1 - Principles for interpretation of the Deed..............................................................56
Schedule 2 - Notices .....................................................................................................................58
Schedule 3 - Categories of Emergency Plant Pests.................................................................68
  1 Categorisation of EPPs ................................................................................................68
  2 Process for categorisation, re-categorisation or removal of an EPP and for review of
     Funding Weights ............................................................................................................69
  3 Guide to parties seeking categorisation/re-categorisation/removal ................................71
  4 Guide to parties seeking review of Funding Weights .......................................................72
Schedule 4 - Development and Management of a Response Plan ............................................74
  1 Structure and content of an Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan ("Response Plan") ....74
  2 Key roles under the National EPP Training Program ....................................................74
Schedule 5 - PLANTPLAN Documentation .............................................................................75
  1 PLANTPLAN .................................................................................................................75
  2 Related Species specific Contingency Plans .....................................................................75
Schedule 6 - Cost Sharing ..........................................................................................................76
  1 Government Funding ....................................................................................................76
  2 Application of the formulae to determine Industry Party shares ....................................77
  3 Determination of proportional shares .............................................................................81
  4 Determination of costs ...................................................................................................83
Schedule 7 - Funding of Cost Sharing Obligations ....................................................................94
  1 Payment of Industry Party shares of Cost Sharing .......................................................94
  2 Mechanism for determination of the costs of a Response Plan .....................................98
  3 Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops Represented by Plant Health Australia
     Members .......................................................................................................................99
Schedule 8 - Consultation .........................................................................................................103
  1 National Emergency Plant Pest Management Group ("NMG") in Consideration of
     Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan Issues ..............................................................103
  2 The CCEPP ................................................................................................................105
  3 Membership of the CCEPP in respect of an EPP .........................................................106
  4 Categorisation Group .................................................................................................107
Schedule 9 – Confidentiality Deed Poll ..................................................................................109
Schedule 10 – Accounting and reporting ................................................................................112
  1 Statement of Expenditure ............................................................................................112
  2 Monitoring of expenditure ..........................................................................................114
Schedule 11 – Auditing .............................................................................................................115
1 Efficiency Auditing .................................................................................................................115
2 Financial Auditing ..................................................................................................................115

Schedule 12 – Deed of Accession ..............................................................................................117
Schedule 13 – Categorised EPPs ............................................................................................122
Schedule 14 – Agreed Limits .....................................................................................................125
Schedule 15 – Statements by Government and Industry Parties on Biosecurity
Policies and Programs ..............................................................................................................126
Schedule 16 – Process for Variation or Termination of Deed ..................................................283
Schedule 17 – Guidelines for Owner Reimbursement Costs ....................................................285
PARTIES

Plant Health Australia Limited (ABN 97 092 607 997) of Level 1, 1 Phipps Close, Deakin ACT 2600

Commonwealth of Australia (acting through its Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment ABN 34 190 894 983) of 18 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra City ACT 2601

The State of Queensland (acting through its Department of Agriculture and Fisheries ABN 66 934 348 189) of 41 George Street, Brisbane Qld 4000

The State of New South Wales (acting through its Department of Primary Industries ABN 72 189 919 072) of 161 Kite Street, Orange NSW 2800

The State of Victoria (acting through its Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions ABN 83 295 188 244) of 1 Spring Street, Melbourne VIC 3003

The State of South Australia (acting through its Department of Primary Industries and Regions ABN 53 763 159 658) of Grenfell Centre, 25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide SA 5001

The State of Tasmania (acting through its Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment ABN 58 259 330 901) of 1 Franklin Wharf, Hobart TAS 7001

The State of Western Australia (acting through the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development ABN 18 951 343 745) of 3 Baron-Hay Court, South Perth WA 6151

The Northern Territory of Australia (acting through its Department of Primary Industry and Resources ABN 84 085 734 992) of Berrimah Farm, Makagon Road, Berrimah NT 0828

The Australian Capital Territory (acting through its Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate ABN 31 432 729 493) of 480 Northbourne Avenue Dickson, ACT 2602

Almond Board of Australia Inc. (ABN 31 709 079 099)

Apple and Pear Australia Ltd. (ACN 101 551 348)

Australian Banana Growers’ Council Inc. (ABN 60 381 740 734)

Australian Cane Growers’ Council Ltd. (ABN 26 051 583 549)

Australian Forest Products Association Ltd. (ABN 40 008 621 510)

Australian Ginger Industry Association Inc. (ABN 97 981 376 529)

Australian Grape and Wine Inc. (ABN 45 903 873 163)

Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc. (ABN 63 939 614 424)

Australian Lychee Growers Association Inc. (ABN 45 591 381 594)

Australian Macadamia Society Ltd. (ABN 19 010 689 415)

Australian Mango Industry Association Ltd. (ABN 50 713 775 301)

Australian Melon Association Inc. (ABN 36 990 325 012)

Australian Olive Association Ltd. (ABN 57 072 977 489)

Australian Processing Tomato Research Council Inc. (ABN 33 014 204 969)
BACKGROUND

A. The Parties wish to establish a mechanism to facilitate the making of rapid responses to, and the control and eradication of, Emergency Plant Pests (EPPs) including:

(a) facilitating immediate reporting of suspected EPPs by providing financial disincentives for any failure to report;

(b) facilitating an early and comprehensive response to an EPP, in order to define the nature of the EPP and eradicate it;
(c) providing to parties which fund a response to an EPP a role in decision making about the response and its funding;

(d) defining funding responsibilities up to certain limits for each EPP including providing a framework wherein:

(i) the beneficiaries of the eradication of an EPP pay an appropriate and equitable proportion of the costs of mounting a response;

(ii) no one person or organisation is made better or worse off\(^1\) as a result of reporting an Incident or suspected Incident; and

(iii) there is appropriate accountability by each Party to all of the Parties which fund a response to an EPP.

B. The Parties wish to establish that mechanism in the manner set out in this Deed having regard to agreed principles for proportional funding and an agreed framework for Cost Sharing. In so doing, the Parties acknowledge:

(a) the responsibilities of the State and Territory agencies in managing the eradication of EPPs within their jurisdictions;

(b) the need for goodwill and cooperation between all Parties in the operation of the mechanism; and

(c) the fact that it is not intended that Cost Sharing principles apply to consequential loss suffered by a Party.

**OPERATIVE PROVISIONS**

1 Interpretation

1.1 Definitions

In this Deed, unless the contrary intention appears:

Affected means:

(a) In respect of Government Parties:

(i) In relation to an EPP:

A. the Australian Government;

B. the State and Territory governments in the territory of which the EPP may arise; and

\(^1\) A person or organisation will be no better or worse off as a consequence of reporting an Incident when compared to other persons or organisations affected by the Incident or the Response Plan.
C. the State and Territory governments which may be required to contribute to Shared Costs if the EPP arises in another territory.

(ii) In relation to a Response Plan:
A. the Australian Government;
B. the State and Territory governments in the territory of which the Response Plan will be conducted; and
C. the State and Territory governments which may be required to contribute to Shared Costs if the Response Plan is conducted in another territory.

(b) In respect of Industry Parties:

(i) In relation to an EPP, the Industry Parties whose members’ Crops are or may be affected by the EPP.

(ii) In relation to a Response Plan, the Industry Parties whose members’ Crops are or may be affected by the EPP(s) which are the subject of the Response Plan.

For the avoidance of doubt, ‘Affected’ in respect of Industry Parties does not include an Industry Party whose members are or may suffer financial or other consequences from the implementation of a Response Plan but whose members’ Crops are not and will not be affected by the EPP for which the Response Plan is developed.

For the avoidance of doubt, an Industry Party is considered to be Affected by an Incident or an outbreak of an EPP relating to Bees if the Incident or outbreak will or may affect pollination of the Crops of the members of that Industry Party.

For the avoidance of doubt, an Industry Party is considered to be Affected by an Incident or an outbreak of an EPP in relation to a Fungus if the Incident or outbreak will or may affect the Fungus directly or affect the host tree and this will or may in turn affect the Fungus.

**Agreed Limit** has the meaning given by clause 9.5.

**Bees** are bees of a type commercially cultivated in Australia for the production of honey and/or provision of pollination services.

**Biosecurity** means a set of measures designed to protect a Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops from Plant Pests at national, regional and individual farm levels.

**Categorisation Group** (or **Emergency Plant Pest Categorisation Group**) means a group convened according to Part 4 of Schedule 8 that will advise on the categorisation, re-categorisation or removal from the categorised list of a Plant Pest or the Funding Weight of a categorised EPP.

**Commencement Date** means the date determined in accordance with clause 2.1.2.
CCEPP means the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests which is a committee of technical representatives of the Parties established in accordance with clause 11.2.

Confidential Information means all know-how and commercially valuable or sensitive information (in whatever form) disclosed by a Party to one or more other Parties for the purposes of this Deed, but does not include information that:

(a) is already in the public domain or, after the date of this Deed, becomes part of the public domain otherwise than as a result of an unauthorised disclosure by the receiving Party or its representatives;

(b) is or becomes available to the receiving Party from a third party lawfully in possession of that information and which has the lawful power to disclose such information to the receiving Party on a non-confidential basis; or

(c) was in the lawful possession of the receiving Party without restrictions as to its use or was developed independently by the receiving Party (as shown by its written record or other evidence) prior to the date of disclosure to it under this Deed.

Consensus means in respect of a decision to be taken on an issue, that none of those persons present when the decision is taken are opposed to it, although:

(a) persons present during the discussion may have expressed contrary views;

(b) achieving the consensus may have required a measure of compromise to ensure a workable outcome; and

(c) some entitled to be present may not be present and some may abstain from participating in the decision.

Cost Sharing is the process of government Parties and Industry Parties proportional funding of the Shared Costs arising from the implementation of a Response Plan, as described in this Deed.

CPHM means the individual holding the position of Chief Plant Health Manager, or his/her equivalent, of a State or Territory.

CPPO means the individual holding the position of the Chief Plant Protection Officer of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops includes plants, plant products and forests, Fungi and also includes bees and their hives.

Cropping Sector means a Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops represented by an Industry Party.

DAFF means the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry or such other Australian Government Department as may, during the term of this Deed, have responsibility for the subject matter of this Deed.

Efficiency Advocate is a person appointed to assist with the implementation of a Response Plan in accordance with the requirements of this Deed and the agreed
Response Plan. The intent is to provide assurance to the Parties that a Cost Shared response is being conducted as described in an effective and efficient manner.

Emergency Plant Pest or EPP is a Plant Pest that is included in Schedule 13 or which is determined by the Categorisation Group to meet one or more of the following criteria:

(a) It is a known exotic Plant Pest the economic consequences of an occurrence of which would be economically or otherwise harmful for Australia, and for which it is considered to be in the regional and national interest to be free of the Plant Pest.

(b) It is a variant form of an established Plant Pest which can be distinguished by appropriate investigative and diagnostic methods and which, if established in Australia, would have a regional and national impact.

(c) It is a serious Plant Pest of unknown or uncertain origin which may, on the evidence available at the time, be an entirely new Plant Pest or one not listed in Schedule 13 and which if established in Australia is considered likely to have an adverse economic impact regionally and nationally.

(d) It is a Plant Pest already found in Australia that:

(i) is restricted to a defined area through the use of regulatory measures intended to prevent further spread of the pest out of the defined area or into an endangered area; and

(ii) has been detected outside the defined area; and

(iii) is not a native of Australia; and

(iv) is not the subject of any instrument for management which is agreed to be effective risk mitigation and management at a national level; and

(v) is considered likely to have an adverse economic impact such that an emergency response is required to prevent an incident of regional and national importance.

Emergency Response Phase has the meaning given in clause 5.2.

Emergency Containment means a set of measures implemented by the Lead Agency as part of an EPP response. It is intended to restrict the EPP to a defined area, and may include the use of quarantine measures, in order to prevent further spread of the EPP and preserve the opportunities for eradication of the EPP.

Farm Gate Value means the value of produce produced on farm and sold at the first point of sale (e.g. the local silo for grain) less the estimated or actual transport costs from farm gate to first point of sale. For the purposes of this Deed, Farm Gate Value is the equivalent of LVP.

Feral means a plant that is not native to a location, that has escaped from cultivation or domestication and that can reproduce in the wild without human intervention. For the avoidance of doubt, Feral plants do not include weeds.
Formal Notification to the CCEPP occurs when a State or Territory CPHM notifies the Chair of the CCEPP, either orally or in writing, that an Incident has occurred within that State or Territory. Written notification must be used to confirm oral advice and must be in the form agreed from time to time by the Parties.

Funding Weight means, where an EPP affects the members of more than one Industry Party, the proportional impact, expressed as a percentage of the total impact, of the EPP on each Affected Industry Party.

Fungi means truffles and mushrooms of a type which are commercially cultivated in Australia.

IIPS (Individual Industry Proportional Share) means an Industry Party’s individual proportional share of LVP of all Crops in Australia for which growers are represented by all Industry Parties calculated as follows:

\[
\frac{\text{LVP (Affected Industry Party)}}{\text{LVP (All Industry Parties)}}
\]

Where:

LVP (Industry Party) means the LVP for the affected Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops (including forestry production for logs) for which the Industry Party is the representative body for growers, as at the applicable 1 July;

LVP (All Industry Parties) means the total LVP for all Crops (including forestry production for logs) for which all Industry Parties are representative bodies for growers, as at the applicable 1 July,

provided that:

(a) if there is more than one Industry Party representing growers of a particular Crop the LVP for that Crop will be apportioned between those Parties for the purposes of the above calculation by the Parties in their discretion; and

(b) for the purposes of this definition of IIPS, an Industry Party is deemed to represent the growers of a Crop or Crops if the Plant Health Australia register of members specifies that the Industry Party is a representative body for that Crop.

Incident means the occurrence of a confirmed or reasonably held suspicion of an EPP or of an uncategorised Plant Pest which is reasonably believed to be an EPP (not including a Plant Pest investigation where the provisional finding or diagnosis is that the Plant Pest is established).

Incident Definition Phase has the meaning given in clause 5.1.

Industry Party means any member of Plant Health Australia which represents a Cropping Sector and which is a signatory to this Deed. Any Cropping Sector represented by an Industry Party is deemed to be a national Cropping Sector.
Industry Party Representative means an appropriately accredited person who represents each Industry Party which is entitled to be represented at meetings of the NMG, CCEPP or Categorisation Group.

Industry Party Delegate means a person who represents each Affected Industry Party at an EPP control centre.

Lead Agency(s) means the agency(s) of the State(s) or Territory(s) which are responsible for leading the conduct of a Response Plan (because of the occurrence of an Incident within their State(s) or Territory(s)).

LVP or Local Value of Production means the Farm Gate Value of the Crop, Crops or sub-group (included in Part 3.3 of Schedule 6) of Crops represented by a particular Industry Party as calculated at 1 July 2004 and every 12 months thereafter as based on a rolling three year average, using the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data for the most recent, and two preceding, years (or the most recently published Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) data, if ABS data is not available). If data has not been published by either ABS or ABARE, a source of data determined by the Board of Plant Health Australia may be calculated in respect of the Crop, Crops or sub group of Crops represented by that Industry Party.

Meeting means participation in meetings which includes participation by:

(a) telephone;

(b) videoconference; or

(c) any other means of communication which the chair of the meeting determines to be suitable.

National Emergency Plant Pest Management Group or NMG means the group with the constitution and role set out in Part 1 of Schedule 8 which will, in particular, approve or not approve a Response Plan and the consequent application of Cost Sharing (following advice from the CCEPP) and which will manage the national policy and resourcing needs of a Response Plan, on behalf of the Affected Parties.

National EPP Training Program means a program to be established by Plant Health Australia to train people who will participate in activities under this Deed.

Operative Date means the date specified in accordance with clause 2.1.1.

Owner means, as applicable, the owner(s) of a Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops, or a property, which is/are subject to a Response Plan, or their authorised representative(s).

Owner Reimbursement Costs has the meaning set out in Part 4.4 of Schedule 6.

Party means an entity that:

(a) has executed this Deed, or has executed a Deed of Accession in accordance with clause 3; and

(b) has not withdrawn from or been removed from this Deed.
and **Parties** means two or more such entities, as determined by the context.

**Plant Health** means the health (including with respect to germination, growth and further reproduction) of living plants and parts thereof, including seeds and germplasm.

**Plant Pest** means any species, biotype or strain of invertebrate pest or pathogen injurious to Plant Health, Unprocessed Plant Products, Bees or Fungi provided that it is discrete, identifiable and genetically stable, but excludes Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs).

**Plant Pest Strategy** is a published strategy for the management of a particular EPP or one developed in summary form for the purposes of this Deed set out or referred to in Part 2 of Schedule 5.

**PLANTPLAN** means the Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan the current version of which is referred to in Part 1 of Schedule 5.

**Proof of Freedom Phase** has the meaning given in clause 5.3.

**Quarantine** means restraints upon activities on an affected property imposed pursuant to a Response Plan designed to prevent the spread of an EPP and includes restrictions on access to and removal of materials from an affected property, and movement controls on plants, plant products, people, machinery and other items except as approved pursuant to the Response Plan.

**Relevant Parties** means, in respect of the taking of a decision or action, the Parties which may be affected (or, where they are an Industry Party, the members of which may be affected) by the decision or action.

**Representative** means a person who a Party has notified Plant Health Australia in writing as being authorised to act on behalf of that Party in respect of a Response Plan (which in the case of Industry Parties means their Industry Party Representative).

**Required Insurance** means those insurances specified in clause 28.

**Response Plan** means an integrated plan for undertaking a response to an EPP that is, in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 4, developed by one or more State or Territory CPHM(s), endorsed by the CCEPP and approved by the NMG and which is subject to Cost Sharing in accordance with this Deed. The Response Plan may include Emergency Containment actions so as to enable the payment of Owner Reimbursement Costs and Cost Sharing if considered appropriate by CCEPP and approved by NMG.

**Response Plan Completion Date** means the date of:

(a) an NMG determination pursuant to clause 5.2.4(b)(i), clause 5.3.4(a) or clause 5.4.3; or

(b) a determination by NMG pursuant to clause 5.3.4(b) that the Response Plan should come to an end.

**Shared Costs** means those costs that are shared by the Parties as described in Clause 9 and which are incurred in the course of implementing a Response Plan.
**STPS** means a State/Territory Party’s proportional share of the LVP of the affected Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops in Australia calculated as follows:

\[
\frac{\text{LVP (State/Territory Party)}}{\text{LVP (All State/Territory Parties)}}
\]

Where:

**LVP (State/Territory Party)** means the LVP for the affected Crop, Crops or sub-groups of Crops (including forestry production for logs) produced in the State or Territory of that State/Territory Party, as at the applicable 1 July;

**LVP (All State/Territory Parties)** means the total LVP for affected Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops (including forestry production for logs) produced in the States and Territories that have representation by a State/Territory Party, as at the applicable 1 July.

**Transition to Management** means the undertaking of activities for transitioning the management of an EPP from seeking to achieve eradication of the EPP during an Emergency Response Phase to management of the EPP outside of this Deed.

**Transition to Management Phase** has the meaning given in clause 5.4.

**Unanimous** means all Parties or persons entitled to vote on an issue have voted in the same fashion in respect of that issue. Unanimously will have a corresponding meaning.

**Unprocessed Plant Products** means unprocessed material of plant origin (including grain) and are products where the biosecurity risk remains unchanged. For the purposes of this definition, a plant product is not considered to have been processed as a consequence of it having been harvested, sorted, transported or stored if those processes have occurred whilst the product remains owned by the grower of the plants from which the product is produced.

1.2 **Interpretation**

1.2.1 The principles set out in Schedule 1 will apply to the interpretation and application of this Deed, unless the context requires otherwise.

2 **Term of this Deed**

2.1 **Commencement Date, Operative Date and ending date**

2.1.1 This Deed commenced on 26 October, 2005 (Operative Date), and is legally enforceable from that date against:

(a) the Parties; and

(b) subject to clause 3, former Parties.
2.1.2 This Deed will commence, and will be legally enforceable in respect of its applicability to a particular EPP or Incident (Commencement Date), when the Deed has been executed by:

(a) Plant Health Australia;

(b) each of the Affected government Parties; and

(c) all of the Industry Parties which are Affected Parties in respect of that particular EPP or Incident

and will be binding in respect of all matters related to management of a particular EPP or Incident on all Parties which are signatories following that date.

2.1.3 This Deed will continue until the Parties agree to terminate the Deed in accordance with clause 17.2.

2.2 Review

2.2.1 The terms of this Deed will be reviewed by the Parties in light of experience of its operation. The review is to commence no more than five years from the Operative Date with subsequent reviews to commence each five years.

2.3 Continuing provisions

2.3.1 Where this Deed has ended either by termination, rescission or otherwise, the following provisions survive and the Parties will continue to be bound by them:

(a) clauses 3.3.1(a), 3.4.5, 3.5.3, 10, 12.1, 12.4, 17.3, 19, 20, 25, 27, 28 and 29; and

(b) such other provisions of this Deed as are necessary to give full force and effect to those clauses including (but not limited to) interpretational clauses and clauses containing definitions.

3 Admission, withdrawal and removal of Parties and representation of a Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops

3.1 Application for Admission

3.1.1 A body which is nationally representative of one or more Crops or sub-group of Crops and which is, or is becoming, a member of Plant Health Australia may, by application in writing to Plant Health Australia, apply to become an Industry Party to this Deed. An application may not be conditional on amendment of the Deed. An application must identify the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops and provide details of the membership and purposes of the body. Plant Health Australia must:

(a) circulate the application to existing Parties;

(b) coordinate inquiries or discussion between the applicant and existing Parties; and

(c) advise existing Parties of the outcomes of any inquiries or discussions with an applicant representative body.
3.2  Admission

3.2.1  Admission of a party which is not an original Party to this Deed may occur if the existing Parties (other than any Party which is representative of the same Crop or Crops as the applicant), each of which is entitled to one vote, vote in favour of that admission in accordance with clause 3.2.1A:

(a) at a Meeting of the Parties to be convened by Plant Health Australia not more than 6 months after receipt of the application, or

(b) by circulation of a resolution issued by Plant Health Australia not more than 6 months after receipt of the application.

3.2.1A  The resolution to admit a new Party to this Deed will be passed if both:

(a) all votes received at the Meeting or in response to the circulated resolution are in favour of the admission; and

(b) the votes received at the Meeting or in response to the circulated resolution include votes from all Government Parties and at least 75% of Industry Parties.

3.2.1B  If a resolution referred to in clause 3.2.1(b) fails, the resolution must then be put to a Meeting of the Parties pursuant to clause 3.2.1(a) for further consideration. If the resolution is passed at the Meeting, then the new Party will be admitted in accordance with clause 3.

3.2.2  A body will become a Party upon its execution of a Deed of Accession to this Deed in the form of the Deed at Part 1 of Schedule 12.

3.3  Withdrawal of a Party from the Deed

3.3.1  Any Party other than Plant Health Australia may, by not less than 6 months’ notice in writing to each other Party, withdraw from this Deed provided that where it does so:

(a) it will remain liable for:

(i) liabilities accrued to other Parties up to the date on which the notice takes effect (i.e. the date specified in the notice being a date not less than 6 months after the date of service of the notice on all Parties); and

(ii) any obligations in respect of Cost Sharing arising pursuant to a Response Plan which has been agreed prior to the date of which the notice is served; and

(b) the remaining Parties will continue to be bound by the Deed, to the extent that performance of their obligations is not rendered impossible by the withdrawal of the Party from the Deed.

3.3.2  Where a Party withdraws from the Deed, Plant Health Australia must, within 60 days of the date on which it receives the notice of withdrawal, convene a Meeting of the remaining Parties to consider the implications for the Deed of the withdrawal of the Party.
3.4 Replacement of an Industry Party

3.4.1 An Industry Party which:

(a) is proposing to cease to exist; or
(b) has changed, or is proposing to change, its structure, nature or legal identity so that in either case it may no longer represent its Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops nationally

must, by written notice, advise Plant Health Australia of the relevant facts and of its withdrawal from this Deed. The Industry Party may, with the agreement of the body concerned, nominate a body that is or will shortly be capable of representing the Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops in respect of this Deed (‘Replacement Body’).

3.4.2 The Replacement Body may, by application in writing, apply to Plant Health Australia to become a party to this Deed to represent the Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops in place of the existing Industry Party. The Replacement Body must agree to:

(a) assume responsibility for the liabilities accrued by the existing Industry Party to the other Parties up to the date that the Replacement Body becomes a Party;
(b) meet the reasonable costs of Plant Health Australia in inquiring into the application; and
(c) accept any obligations in respect of Cost Sharing arising pursuant to a Response Plan for which the existing Industry Party may be liable.

3.4.3 Plant Health Australia must:

(a) circulate to existing Parties the written notice from the Industry Party and the application from the Replacement Body;
(b) inquire into or discuss the application with the existing Industry Party and the Replacement Body; and
(c) advise the existing Parties of the outcomes of any inquiries and discussions with the Industry Party and the Replacement Body.

3.4.4 The Replacement Body will become a Party, and the existing Industry Party will cease to be a Party, if the existing Parties (other than the existing Industry Party), each of which is entitled to one vote, vote in favour of that replacement in accordance with clause 3.4.4A:

(a) at a Meeting of the Parties to be convened by Plant Health Australia not more than 6 months after receipt of the application; or
(b) by circulation of a resolution issued by Plant Health Australia not more than 6 months after receipt of the application

provided that the Replacement Body and Plant Health Australia (on behalf of the other Parties) execute a Deed of Accession to this Deed in the form set out
at Part 2 of Schedule 12 in which the Replacement Body takes on the obligations and liabilities of the Industry Party.

3.4.4A The resolution to accept the Replacement Body to this Deed will be passed if both:

(a) all votes received at the Meeting or in response to the circulated resolution are in favour of the acceptance of the Replacement Body; and

(b) the votes received at the Meeting or in response to the circulated resolution include votes from all Government Parties and at least 75% of Industry Parties.

3.4.4B If a resolution referred to in clause 3.4.4(b) fails, the resolution must then be put to a Meeting of the Parties pursuant to clause 3.4.4(a) for further consideration. If the resolution is passed at the Meeting, then the Replacement Body may become a Party in accordance with clause 3.

3.4.5 The Industry Party being replaced will remain liable for any liabilities accrued to other Parties prior to the date of its withdrawal, except to the extent that they are met by the Replacement Body.

3.5 Removal

3.5.1 Where an Industry Party:

(a) fails to comply with the terms of this Deed; or

(b) in the view of all other Parties, is no longer representative of its nominated Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops,

the other Parties may remove that Industry Party from participation in this Deed by terminating it as a Party to the Deed, provided that the Industry Party is advised, in writing by Plant Health Australia, of the reasons for the proposed removal and is afforded the opportunity to make written submissions to, and to be heard by, the other Parties.

3.5.2 Termination of the Industry Party as a Party must be by Unanimous agreement of all Parties other than the Industry Party, upon which agreement the Industry Party will cease to be a Party to this Deed.

3.5.3 The Industry Party terminated pursuant to clause 3.5.2 will remain liable for:

(a) liabilities accrued to other Parties up to the date on which it is terminated as a Party; and

(b) any obligations in respect of Cost Sharing arising pursuant to a Response Plan which has been agreed prior to its termination.

3.5.4 The other Parties will not be liable for any loss caused to or suffered by the Industry Party resulting from its termination as a Party pursuant to clause 3.5.2.

3.6 Representation of a Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops

3.6.1 For the purposes of Cost Sharing, an Industry Party will be taken to represent the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops which it notified Plant Health Australia
that it represented when becoming a Party to the Deed, as set out in Part 3 of Schedule 7.

3.6.2 An Industry Party may, by application in writing to Plant Health Australia, apply to represent a Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops:

(a) that is not yet represented (whether a newly emerged Crop or not); or

(b) that is represented by an existing Industry Party.

3.6.3 An application must identify, and provide evidence of the applicant Industry Party’s qualification to represent, the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops. Where the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops is represented by one or more existing Industry Parties, Plant Health Australia must give notice of the application to that Party or Parties and invite it or them to submit, within 2 months of the notice, a response to the application. Plant Health Australia must circulate the application and any response to all other Parties.

3.6.4 The applicant Industry Party will be taken to represent the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops if the other Parties (other than any Industry Party which represents the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops the subject of the application), each of which is entitled to vote, vote in favour of that change of representation in accordance with clause 3.6.4A:

(a) at a Meeting of the Parties to be convened by Plant Health Australia not more than 6 months after receipt of the application; or

(b) by circulation of a resolution issued by Plant Health Australia not more than 6 months after receipt of the application.

3.6.4A The resolution to change the representation of a Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops will be passed if both:

(a) all votes received at the Meeting or in response to the circulated resolution are in favour of the change or representation; and

(b) the votes received at the Meeting or in response to the circulated resolution include votes from all Government Parties and at least 75% of Industry Parties.

3.6.4B If a resolution referred to in clause 3.6.4(b) fails, the resolution must then be put to a Meeting of the Parties pursuant to clause 3.6.4(a) for further consideration. If the resolution is passed at the Meeting, then the applicant Industry Party will be taken to represent the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops the subject of its application.

3.6.5 If the application is approved, the name of the Party and the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops which it is to represent are to be added to the table setting out the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops represented by Industry Parties at Part 3 of Schedule 7.

3.6.6 An Industry Party may, by notice in writing to Plant Health Australia, state its intention to resign its right to represent a Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops. Plant Health Australia must circulate the notice to all Parties. The resignation takes effect, unless withdrawn by notice in writing to Plant Health Australia, 6
months from the date on which the notice on intention was received by Plant Health Australia, which must amend the list of Crop, Crops or sub-groups of Crops represented by Industry Parties at Part 3 of Schedule 7.

3.6.7 An Industry Party which resigns its right to represent a Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops will remain liable for any liabilities accrued to other Parties with respect to the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops prior to the date of effect of it ceasing to represent the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops.

4 Reporting of Emergency Plant Pests

4.1 Obligation to advise of an EPP within 24 hours

4.1.1 For the purposes of Cost Sharing under this Deed, each government Party undertakes:

(a) to give Formal Notification to the CCEPP within 24 hours of becoming aware of an Incident; and

(b) to take all reasonable steps to ensure that persons within their jurisdiction (including public and private plant health personnel and public and private laboratories) advise that government Party within 24 hours of becoming aware of an Incident, so that that government Party can give Formal Notification to the CCEPP in accordance with clause 4.1.1(a).

4.1.2 Each Industry Party undertakes to take reasonable steps to advise its members and other participants (as considered appropriate by the Industry Parties) in respect of their Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops to notify the applicable State or Territory authority within 24 hours of becoming aware of an Incident so that the applicable authority can notify the relevant CPHM who can give Formal Notification to the CCEPP in accordance with clause 4.1.1(a).

4.2 Effect of failure of a State or Territory Party to advise of an EPP within 24 hours

4.2.1 Payment to a State or Territory Party pursuant to this Deed for action taken by that Party in accordance with this Deed ("Claimant") will not be made unless:

(a) the Claimant gave a Formal Notification to the CCEPP in accordance with clause 4.1.1(a); or

(b) the NMG determines on the advice of the CCEPP that a Claimant has in particular circumstances acted appropriately and that, despite the requirements of clause 4.1 (for notification within 24 hours of becoming aware of an Incident), payment should otherwise be made to the Claimant in respect of a period more than 24 hours prior to the Formal Notification to the CCEPP of the Incident.

5 Phases of an Emergency Plant Pest Response

5.1 Incident Definition Phase

5.1.1 This is the investigation period which will commence following Formal Notification to the CCEPP.
5.1.2 The Incident Definition Phase will continue until either:

(a) a Response Plan is agreed by the NMG, following:
   (i) a determination by the CCEPP that the Incident relates to an EPP and eradication of the EPP is feasible; and
   (ii) submission of the Response Plan to the NMG by the CCEPP; or

(b) the NMG, on advice from the CCEPP, determines either:
   (i) that the Incident does not relate to an EPP; or
   (ii) that the Incident does relate to an EPP but eradication of the EPP is not feasible.

5.1.3 Emergency Containment measures may be implemented during the Incident Definition Phase.

5.2 Emergency Response Phase

5.2.1 This is the period which may follow the Incident Definition Phase if the NMG agrees to implement a Response Plan.

5.2.2 The aim of the Emergency Response Phase is to implement the Response Plan so as to eradicate the EPP.

5.2.3 The Emergency Response Phase will commence on agreement by the NMG of a Response Plan.

5.2.4 The Emergency Response Phase will continue until either:

(a) the CCEPP determines that the emergency response should enter a Proof of Freedom Phase in accordance with clause 5.3.3; or

(b) the NMG determines (on advice from the CCEPP) that eradication of the EPP is not feasible and either:
   (i) that the emergency response should come to an end, in which case the Response Plan will be terminated; or
   (ii) that the emergency response should enter a Transition to Management Phase in accordance with clause 5.4.2 in which case the Response Plan will be modified to include provisions for the Transition to Management Phase.

5.3 Proof of Freedom Phase

5.3.1 This is the period which may follow the Emergency Response Phase.

5.3.2 The aim of the Proof of Freedom Phase is to undertake activities to confirm whether the EPP has been eradicated.

5.3.3 A Proof of Freedom Phase will commence if the CCEPP determines that the emergency response activities set out in the Response Plan have been successfully completed and the emergency response should enter the Proof of Freedom Phase.
5.3.4 The Proof of Freedom Phase will continue until the NMG determines (on advice from the CCEPP) either:

(a) that the EPP has been eradicated in which case the Response Plan will come to an end; or

(b) that the Proof of Freedom Phase should end, in which case the NMG may also determine that the Response Plan should come to an end.

5.4 Transition to Management Phase

5.4.1 This is the period which may follow the Emergency Response Phase.

5.4.2 The Transition to Management Phase will commence if it has been determined by the NMG (on advice from the CCEPP) that the emergency response should enter a Transition to Management Phase. The NMG may only make such a determination if it considers that Transition to Management is achievable within a defined and reasonable timeframe not exceeding 12 months.

5.4.3 The Transition to Management Phase will continue until NMG determines (on advice from the CCEPP) either:

(a) that Transition to Management has been completed; or

(b) that the Transition to Management Phase should end, in which case the Response Plan will come to an end.

5.5 New outbreaks

5.5.1 Where there is an Incident which cannot be directly linked to a previous Incident, it will be treated as a new Incident and the four Phases described above may apply.

6 Developing a Response Plan

6.1 Procedure

6.1.1 Where the NMG determines that a Response Plan should be developed, it must so advise the CPHM(s) of the Lead Agency(s) who must develop, in consultation with the CCEPP, a Response Plan in accordance with the following principles:

(a) the Response Plan development and approval process must not impede the initiation of a rapid response by the Lead Agency(s) to an outbreak of an EPP;

(b) the Response Plan must reflect the nature and circumstances of the EPP and Incident, including Feral, neglected, unmanaged and backyard Plant Pest control where the CCEPP advises that such measures are integral to the Response Plan;

(c) key strategies and core operational components of the Response Plan (including those which may be subject to Cost Sharing and those which may not) must be prepared by the CPHM(s) but some components will remain to be developed in accordance with a timetable to be agreed by the CCEPP;
(d) the Response Plan must clearly identify any proposed significant variations to or departures from the current version of PLANTPLAN; and

(e) all key strategies and core operational activities should be included in the Response Plan and must clearly identify which of them are to be the subject of Cost Sharing.

6.1.2 Once agreed by the NMG, the Response Plan will commit the Lead Agency(s) to the key strategies and core operational activities contained in the Plan, subject to any variations which may be subsequently advised by the CCEPP and agreed by the NMG or which may be required to comply with the legislation of a State or Territory in which the Incident occurs.

6.1.3 The content of the Response Plan must be prepared in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 4.

6.1.4 The CPHM(s) of the Lead Agency(s) must provide the proposed Response Plan to the CCEPP as soon as possible.

6.1.5 The CCEPP, once it agrees that the proposed Response Plan is in a suitable form, must submit the proposed Response Plan to the NMG for approval.

6.2 Standards

6.2.1 A Response Plan must (except as advised by the CCEPP and agreed by NMG) conform to:

(a) PLANTPLAN, referred to in Part 1 of Schedule 5; and

(b) any applicable Plant Pest strategy, referred to in Part 2 of Schedule 5.

7 Categories of Emergency Plant Pests

7.1 The four categories of EPPs

7.1.1 EPPs will be categorised into four categories in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 3.

7.2 Determination of applicable category and Funding Weight for an uncategorised EPP

7.2.1 Any Party may ask Plant Health Australia to obtain a categorisation of a Plant Pest which has not been categorised.

7.2.2 Upon receipt of such a request, Plant Health Australia must, if it is satisfied that it may be an EPP and once it has sufficient information to enable categorisation of the Plant Pest, refer the information to the Categorisation Group for categorisation.

7.2.3 In the circumstances set out in clause 7.2.2, Plant Health Australia must convene a Categorisation Group which must:

(a) where it has sufficient information to enable it to categorise the Plant Pest, determine whether it is an EPP and, if so, the category of EPP
and the Funding Weight in accordance with the procedure at Schedule 3; or

(b) where it does not have sufficient information to enable it to determine if it is an EPP or to categorise it, request that information from Plant Health Australia or such Party(s) as may be able to supply it and, upon receipt of that additional information, determine whether it is an EPP and, if so, the category and Funding Weight of the EPP in accordance with the procedure at Schedule 3.

7.2.4 Following categorisation of an EPP and determination of its Funding Weight pursuant to clause 7.2.3(a) or (b), the Relevant Parties must determine whether that EPP should be included in Schedule 13. Where they so determine, Plant Health Australia must amend Schedule 13 accordingly and forward a copy to all Parties.

7.3 Re-categorisation, removal or review of Funding Weight of EPPs

7.3.1 Any Party which is dissatisfied with a determination of a category or the Funding Weight of an EPP, or which believes that it should be removed from the list of categorised EPPs, may request re-categorisation or removal, or review of the Funding Weight, by lodgement with Plant Health Australia of a request in the form of Part 2.2 of Schedule 3 ("Request for Re-categorisation or Removal") or Part 2.3 of Schedule 3 ("Request for Review of Funding Weight"). The Parties must follow the process for re-categorisation, removal or review of Funding Weight of an EPP set out at Part 2 of Schedule 3.

7.3.2 Where Plant Health Australia determines that the request for re-categorisation or removal, or review of the Funding Weight, is in an appropriate form and includes sufficient information, it must within 30 days seek a review of the categorisation of Funding Weight by a Categorisation Group.

7.3.3 Where Plant Health Australia determines that the request for re-categorisation or removal, or review of the Funding Weight, is not in an appropriate form or does not contain sufficient information, it must so advise in writing the Party which lodged the request. That Party may seek reconsideration of the matter at a General Meeting of Plant Health Australia. Where a motion for reconsideration is passed by ordinary resolution, Plant Health Australia must, within 30 days of the resolution, seek reconsideration of the matter by a Categorisation Group.

7.3.4 The Categorisation Group must consider a request for re-categorisation, removal or review of Funding Weight received by it pursuant to clause 7.3.2 or 7.3.3 in accordance with Part 2 of Schedule 3. Where it has sufficient information to enable it to consider a re-categorisation, removal or review of Funding Weight of an EPP, it must consider that matter having regard to the criteria set out in Parts 3 and 4 of Schedule 3. Where it does not have sufficient information to enable it to consider the matter, it must request the required information from Plant Health Australia or such Party(s) as may be able to supply it. Upon receipt of sufficient additional information, it must proceed to consider the matter having regard to the nature and impact of the EPP in accordance with the criteria set out in Parts 3 and 4 of Schedule 3.
7.3.5 Where the Categorisation Group advises Plant Health Australia of the outcomes of its consideration, the Parties must follow the procedures set out in Part 2 of Schedule 3.

8 Management of a Response Plan

8.1 Implementation

8.1.1 A Response Plan must be implemented by the Lead Agency(s) in accordance with:

(a) applicable legislation; and

(b) the terms of the Response Plan.

8.1.2 For the avoidance of doubt, the relevant Lead Agency(s) must, to the extent not inconsistent with applicable legislation, take action in accordance with the agreed Response Plan.

8.2 Qualification of Personnel

8.2.1 The Parties must:

(a) wherever possible, use personnel for the roles listed in Part 2 of Schedule 4 who are accredited pursuant to the National EPP Training Program managed by Plant Health Australia and listed on the national data base of accredited personnel; and

(b) take appropriate steps to have appropriate numbers of their personnel trained and accredited pursuant to the National EPP Training Program. Plant Health Australia may advise each Party of the number of persons it considers to be appropriate.

9 Principles of Cost Sharing

9.1 Cost Sharing - Incident Definition Phase

9.1.1 The State(s) and/or Territory(s) in which the Incident has occurred will meet the cost of the Incident Definition Phase except that once a Response Plan has been agreed, Cost Sharing principles will apply in respect of:

(a) Owner Reimbursement Costs from:

(i) the date of first notification of the Incident to the relevant State(s), Territory(s) or the Commonwealth, or

(ii) such earlier date as may be determined by the NMG on the advice of the CCEPP; and

(b) investigation and diagnostic costs if approved by the NMG as being relevant and reasonable.

9.2.1 Once a Response Plan has been agreed, the Parties must share the costs of the implementation of the Response Plan, as determined in accordance with this Deed, in the following proportions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of EPP</th>
<th>Government Funding</th>
<th>Industry Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 4</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.2.2 Cost Sharing will apply in respect of:

(a) salaries and wages;
(b) operating expenses;
(c) capital costs; and
(d) Owner Reimbursement Costs
determined in accordance with Part 4 of Schedule 6.

9.2.3 The “Government Funding” referred to in clause 9.2.1 will be shared between government Parties in the manner set out in Part 1 of Schedule 6.

9.2.4 The “Industry Funding” referred to in clause 9.2.1 will be shared between Industry Parties in the manner set out in Parts 2 and 3 of Schedule 6.

9.3 Cost Sharing - Uncategorised Plant Pest

9.3.1 Where an Incident has been reported to the CCEPP in respect of an uncategorised Plant Pest believed by the NMG to be an EPP and the NMG determines that a Response Plan is to be implemented prior to the categorisation of the Plant Pest, the Parties will engage in Cost Sharing with respect to activities undertaken pursuant to that Response Plan as if it were a:

(a) Category 3 EPP, in the case of a previously unknown Plant Pest; or
(b) Category 3 EPP, in the case of a previously known Plant Pest which had not previously been categorised unless the NMG determines that there are significant public health issues, in which case the Plant Pest will be treated as Category 1,

until further determination by the NMG having regard to advice provided by the Categorisation Group.

9.3.2 If:

(a) the Categorisation Group subsequently determines that a Plant Pest in respect of which there is a Response Plan is an EPP and that it is of a category other than the category under which it has been treated pursuant to clause 9.3.1; and
(b) the Parties adopt that categorisation pursuant to clause 7.2.4, the Parties will only make adjustments between them in respect of funds paid prior to the date of that final determination of category by the Categorisation Group if agreed by the NMG.

9.4 Changing Cost Sharing proportions

9.4.1 The Affected Parties may agree, in respect of any Response Plan, that the proportions for Cost Sharing will be different to those set out in clause 9.2 provided that:

(a) a Party is not bound to meet any change in its liability through a change in the proportions of Cost Sharing until that change has been approved in writing by it or its Representative;

(b) a change in the proportions of Cost Sharing will only take effect in respect of a Party from the date of signature by it or its Representative (unless the document signed by it or its Representative provides otherwise); and

(c) a change in the proportions of Cost Sharing will only apply to that Response Plan (unless the document signed by the Parties or their Representatives provides otherwise).

9.5 Limits to Parties Cost Sharing obligations in respect of a Response Plan

Agreed Limit

9.5.1 The amount which may be eligible for Cost Sharing under a Response Plan may not exceed the Agreed Limit unless agreed in writing by the Affected Parties.

Agreed Limit where only one Affected Industry Party

9.5.2 In respect of a Response Plan where there is only one Industry Party which is an Affected Party (Affected Industry Party), the Agreed Limit which will apply to that Response Plan will be the lesser of:

(a) 2% of the LVP of the Crop(s) represented by the Affected Industry Party; or

(b) where the Parties have agreed to the inclusion in Part 3.3 of Schedule 6 of a sub-group of the Crops represented by the Affected Industry Party, 2% of the LVP of the Affected sub-group(s) of Crops; or

(c) $20 million; or

(d) the amount set out in Schedule 14 by the Operative Date or the amount:

(i) nominated to Plant Health Australia in writing by the Affected Industry Party in respect of the relevant Crop(s); and

(ii) approved by a general meeting of members of Plant Health Australia
every 12 months after the Operative Date,
or such other amount as may be agreed in writing by the Affected Parties.

*Agreed Limit where more than one Affected Industry Party*

9.5.3 In respect of a Response Plan where there is more than one Industry Party which is an Affected Party (*Affected Industry Parties*), the Agreed Limit which will apply to that Response Plan will be:

(a) 1% of the sum of the LVPs of the Crops represented by the Affected Industry Parties; or

(b) where the Parties have agreed to the inclusion in Part 3.3 of Schedule 6 of a sub-group of the Crops represented by any of the Affected Industry Parties, 1% of the sum of the LVP of the Crops represented by the Affected Industry Parties, but only using the LVP of the relevant sub-group(s) where applicable; or

such other amount as may be agreed in writing by the Affected Parties.

*Proportional Share*

*Proportional Share where only one Affected Industry Party*

9.5.4 For the purposes of Cost Sharing in respect of a Response Plan where there is only one Affected Industry Party, the maximum Proportional Share that each Party may be required to contribute to Cost Sharing will be:

(a) its share (as determined in accordance with Schedule 6) of the Agreed Limit determined under clause 9.5.2; or

(b) such greater amount as it has agreed in writing to contribute. Where that agreement in writing is contained within the Response Plan, it must be explicitly worded as an agreement to the increase of the Agreed Limit or Proportional Share for the purposes of clause 9.5.2 of this Deed.

*Proportional Share where more than one Affected Industry Party*

9.5.5 For the purposes of Cost Sharing in respect of a Response Plan where there is more than one Affected Industry Party, the maximum Proportional Share that each Party may be required to contribute to Cost Sharing will be:

(a) its share of the Agreed Limit determined under clause 9.5.3, which share is determined in accordance with the formula set out in Part 2.2 of Schedule 6, which takes into consideration the EPP, the aggregate LVPs of Crops represented by the Affected Industry Parties and the applicable Funding Weights; or

(b) such greater amount as it has agreed in writing to contribute. Where that agreement in writing is contained within the Response Plan, it must be explicitly worded as an agreement to the increase of the Agreed Limit or Proportional Share for the purposes of clause 9.5.2 of this Deed.
Trigger for review of Agreed Limit

9.5.6 In the determination of a Response Plan, the CCEPP must propose and the NMG must approve an expenditure point (Trigger Point) for review of the Agreed Limit which must not be more than 90% of the Agreed Limit.

9.5.7 When expenditure on the Response Plan reaches the Trigger Point, NMG must meet to determine whether the Agreed Limit will be revised or other action taken as set out in clause 9.5.8.

Where Agreed Limit may be exceeded

9.5.8 Where the NMG has reason to believe that the cost of a Response Plan will exceed the Agreed Limit, it must promptly determine whether:

(a) the Agreed Limit should be increased, in which case it must convene a Meeting of Affected Parties to consider the recommended increase;

(b) the Response Plan should be continued;

(c) the Proportional Shares of the Affected Parties should be altered;

(d) any other appropriate alterations should be made to the Response Plan; or

(e) the Response Plan should be transformed into a long term control program in which case the Response Plan will cease.

9.5.9 Cropping sectors with an LVP greater than $20 million that are not represented by Parties to this Deed are not covered by the Cost Sharing arrangements.

9.5.10 If a Cropping sector has an LVP valued at less than $20 million and is not represented by a Party to this Deed, Commonwealth and State/Territory government arrangements may eradicate the pest if it is economically feasible and cost effective, Owner Reimbursement Costs may be available to members of that Cropping sector but representatives of that Cropping sector will have no input into the decision making process.

9.6 Additional costs which are subject to Cost Sharing

9.6.1 The principles for Cost Sharing will also apply to:

(a) the costs of dealing with Feral, neglected and unmanaged plants and associated Plant Pest control measures forming part of a Response Plan where the CCEPP has advised that such measures are required as part of the Response Plan;

(b) the costs incurred by NMG pursuant to clause 12.3;

(c) the costs of a Financial Auditor incurred pursuant to clause 12.4; and

(d) other costs as agreed by the Relevant Parties.

9.7 Plant Health Australia costs of a Response Plan

9.7.1 While Plant Health Australia is neither a government Party nor an Industry Party, the principles of Cost Sharing will apply to costs incurred by it in respect of a Response Plan which are additional to its ordinary operating costs.
9.8 No litigation on Owner Reimbursement Costs

9.8.1 The Parties:

(a) noting that Owner Reimbursement Costs assessed in accordance with Part 4.4 of Schedule 6 may be reviewed under Part 4.4.5 of Schedule 6; and

(b) noting the importance for the operation of this Deed of finalising the costs of a Response Plan in a timely way to facilitate Cost Sharing, agree, in the absence of manifest error, to be bound by the amount assessed and paid in accordance with Part 4.4 of Schedule 6.

10 Funding a Response Plan

10.1 General obligation of the Parties

10.1.1 Where a Response Plan which has been agreed by the NMG is implemented, each Affected Party must, in accordance with this clause 10, meet its Cost Sharing obligations as detailed in clause 9. Reimbursement (of net payments) between Parties is to be made on no less than a three monthly basis (or such other longer period as agreed by the NMG).

10.1.2 For the purposes of Cost Sharing, an Industry Party will be taken to represent each of the Crops identified as being represented by that Party at Part 3 of Schedule 7.

10.1.3 Any Industry Party may, by not less than 6 months' notice in writing to all other Parties, withdraw from representing a crop provided that where it does so:

(a) it will remain liable for:

   (i) liabilities accrued to other Parties up to the date on which the notice takes effect; and

   (ii) any obligations in respect of Cost Sharing arising pursuant to a Response Plan which has been agreed prior to it giving the notice.

10.2 Initial funding by Parties

10.2.1 Where a Response Plan is implemented, each Party must initially meet its own costs arising from its involvement in the Response Plan.

10.3 Progressive Cost Sharing

10.3.1 During the course of implementation of a Response Plan, the Affected Parties must implement the Cost Sharing principles in the manner detailed in Part 2 of Schedule 7.

10.4 Mechanism for Industry Party to meet its Cost Sharing obligations

10.4.1 Each Industry Party must take reasonable steps to ensure that its growers of the Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops of which it is representative meet the Cost Sharing obligations of that Crop, Crops or a sub-group of Crops.
10.4.2 Where the Industry Party is not able to meet its Cost Sharing obligations either directly, or from funds held on its behalf, the Commonwealth will initially meet that Industry Party’s Cost Sharing obligations.

10.4.3 Each Industry Party will meet its Cost Sharing obligations to the Commonwealth, arising as a consequence of the Commonwealth meeting Industry Party obligations pursuant to clause 10.4.2, in the manner set out in Part 1 of Schedule 7.

10.5 Mechanism for determining Response Plan costs

10.5.1 The manner of determining the costs of a Response Plan to which the principles of Cost Sharing will be applied will be as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 7.

10.6 Determination of final costs of responding to an Incident

10.6.1 All Affected Parties must, within 6 months of the Response Plan Completion Date, provide information to Plant Health Australia to enable it to determine the total cost of the implementation of the Response Plan and the wider costs incurred by them in responding to the Incident. Each Affected Party must provide available detailed information of all costs (including Shared Costs and non-Shared Costs) incurred by that Party associated with responding to that Incident being:

(a) salaries and wages;
(b) operating expenses;
(c) capital costs;
(d) Owner Reimbursement Costs; and
(e) estimated consequential losses (but only for the purpose of allowing the Parties to understand the wider cost of responding to the Incident).

10.7 GST

10.7.1 If GST is imposed on any supply under or in connection with this Deed by one Party (the “Supplying Party”) to another Party (the “Receiving Party”):

(a) subject to subclause (b), the Receiving Party must pay the Supplying Party the amount of GST imposed on the Supplying Party (in addition to, and at the same time as, any other amount payable under this Deed by the Receiving Party to the Supplying Party in relation to the supply);

(b) the Supplying Party must issue to the Receiving Party a tax invoice in relation to the supply, in a form that would enable the Receiving Party to claim any input tax credits to which it may be entitled in relation to the amount of GST paid; and

(c) for the purposes of this clause 10.7 the following terms have the meanings given in the A New Tax System (Goods and Services) Tax Act 1999: GST, supply, input tax credit and tax invoice.
11 Consultation

11.1 The NMG
11.1.1 The NMG is constituted, has the role, and must meet and conduct its affairs in the manner set out in Part 1 of Schedule 8 for consideration of EPP response issues.

11.2 The CCEPP
11.2.1 The CCEPP is constituted, has the role, and must meet and conduct its affairs in the manner set out in Parts 2 and 3 of Schedule 8.

11.3 The Categorisation Group
11.3.1 The Categorisation Group is constituted, has the role, and must meet and conduct its affairs in the manner set out in Part 4 of Schedule 8.

11.4 Industry Party representation
11.4.1 Where an Industry Party is an Affected Party, its Representative will be involved in all Meetings and consultation between the Affected Parties.

11.4.2 Industry Party Representatives must:
(a) in the case of the CCEPP, be nominated in writing by each Industry Party to Plant Health Australia by the Operative Date and every twelve months thereafter during the term of the Deed;
(b) where possible, complete a training program to be managed by Plant Health Australia as part of the National EPP Training Program, and receive accreditation, in respect of the principles of EPP responses;
(c) be authorised in writing by the Industry Party to represent that Industry Party in the manner contemplated by this Deed;
(d) report regularly to, and consult appropriately (to the extent that time permits) with, their Industry Party; and
(e) sign a Confidentiality Deed Poll in the form of Schedule 9 prior to participation in any activities pursuant to this Deed.

11.4.3 The CPHM must invite the Affected Industry Party(s) to provide one or more (in the CPHM’s discretion) Industry Party Delegate(s) to contribute to the operations and decision making process within EPP control centres. The Industry Party(s) must nominate one or more suitably qualified person(s) to contribute to the response. The Industry Party Delegate(s) must be authorised to provide an Industry Party view in the decision making processes of the EPP control centres. Industry Party Delegates must comply with clauses 11.4.2(b), (c), (d) and (e) and work as a part of the team at the EPP control centre.

11.5 Plant Health Australia
11.5.1 Plant Health Australia must monitor and report to its members on:
(a) resource usage in the implementation of a Response Plan
(b) Deed policy issues;
(c) the implementation of Biosecurity measures; and
(d) the implementation of the Guidelines for Owner Reimbursement Costs set out in Schedule 17.

11.5.2 In consultation with its members, Plant Health Australia will initiate and manage the reviews of the Deed specified in clause 2.2.1, such reviews to be commenced on each five year anniversary of the Operative Date.

11.6 Representation of government Parties

11.6.1 Where a government Party is an Affected Party, its Representative will be involved in all Meetings and consultation between the Affected Parties.

11.6.2 Government Party Representatives must:

(a) in the case of the CCEPP, be advised in writing by each government Party to Plant Health Australia by the Operative Date and every twelve months thereafter during the term of the Deed;
(b) where possible, complete a training program to be managed by Plant Health Australia as part of the National EPP Training Program, and receive accreditation, in respect of the principles of EPP responses;
(c) be authorised in writing by their government Party to represent that government Party in the manner contemplated by this Deed;
(d) report regularly to, and consult appropriately (to the extent that time permits) with, appropriate agencies within that government Party; and
(e) confirm that they have signed an appropriate form of confidentiality Deed Poll (which may be in the form of Schedule 9) prior to participation in any activities pursuant to this Deed.

12 Accounting for a Response Plan

12.1 Keeping accounts

12.1.1 The Lead Agency(s) for each Response Plan must keep, in auditable form, details of financial expenditure in respect of each Response Plan for which it is/they are responsible and which constitute Shared Costs.

12.1.2 All Parties must be able to identify and provide substantiation of claims in respect of costs for which they seek Cost Sharing.

12.1.3 Each government Party must develop within 6 months of the date of execution of the Deed by it a financial management preparedness plan which details how accounting and reporting will be managed for the implementation of a Response Plan and the recording of costs which may become Shared Costs (including how normal costs will be distinguished). Once developed each Party must provide a copy of its plan to Plant Health Australia, which will review it for consistency with the plans of other Parties and advise of any inconsistencies or matters not in accordance with the Deed.
12.1.4 Plant Health Australia must coordinate and collate claims for reimbursement of money spent by any other Party in respect of the Response Plan, where that other Party has provided such information as required by Plant Health Australia, to satisfy it that the money has been spent by that other Party and that it constitutes Shared Costs.

12.1.5 Plant Health Australia must maintain records of funds receivable and payable by Parties by way of Cost Sharing pursuant to clause 10 of this Deed.

12.2 Reporting

12.2.1 The Lead Agency(s) must provide a written report at each relevant Meeting of the CCEPP in the form of Schedule 10 which sets out the budgeted, committed and actual expenditure on the Response Plan.

12.2.2 The CCEPP must promptly forward a copy of all reports received by it to the NMG.

12.3 Efficiency and effectiveness of a Response Plan

12.3.1 In pursuing its role during a Response Plan, the NMG may obtain, from independent sources of its choosing, advice about the efficiency of the Response Plan to assist its deliberations in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 11.

12.3.2 Plant Health Australia may develop a methodology for use by the NMG and any Efficiency Advocate to enable the conduct of cost/benefit analyses in respect of Response Plans.

12.4 Financial Audit

12.4.1 The Lead Agency must arrange for external audit of the Response Plan ledger account following the Response Plan Completion Date ("Financial Audit") when the criteria set out in Part 2 of Schedule 11 are met by the Response Plan. The Financial Auditor must be engaged to:

(a) report jointly to the Lead Agency and the NMG; and

(b) provide a formal sign off in respect of any claims for, or payments made in respect of, Cost Sharing

having regard to the matters set out in Part 2 of Schedule 11.

12.4.2 Where there is more than one Lead Agency involved in respect of a Response Plan and they do not agree on an external auditor, Plant Health Australia will nominate the Financial Auditor to perform the tasks set out in clause 12.4.1.

13 Biosecurity

13.1.1 The Parties acknowledge the need for a program of risk reduction measures, complementary to the Deed, to reduce the risk of the entry and spread of EPPs including Biosecurity measures for implementation and maintenance at national, regional and individual premises levels.

13.1.2 The Parties commit to an on-going process of risk mitigation, recognising that all Parties are adversely affected by Incidents. The Parties recognise natural
incursions may not be prevented but movements of materials, containers, machinery, mail or passengers are areas where incursion risks must be routinely examined and minimised.

13.1.3 Plant Health Australia is developing, and will manage, a National Plant Pest Risk Mitigation Program. It will include consultative mechanisms to facilitate government Parties and Industry Parties working together to develop and agree all aspects of the program including, and consistent with the Plant Health Australia Biosecurity Planning Guide:

(a) Crop Biosecurity statements that commit the members of each Industry Party to Biosecurity, that identify the current version of that Industry Party’s Biosecurity plan or state when a plan will be in place, and describe how each Industry Party will promote improvements to existing Biosecurity measures used with respect to that Crop, including a commitment to on-farm Biosecurity (included at Schedule 15);

(b) Government Biosecurity statements /strategies outlining Biosecurity policies and programs relevant to their responsibilities including Feral, neglected and unmanaged plants and Plant Pests, and public health and environmental policies (included at Schedule 15);

(c) application of legislative support where appropriate; and

(d) a national communications program that will raise community awareness of the importance of Biosecurity measures.

13.1.4 Each Party must report to Plant Health Australia in July of each year any material changes to the content of, or to the Party’s commitment to, the Party’s Biosecurity statement, and state any reduction in resources available for its implementation and identify any legislative obstacles to the operation of an Industry’s Biosecurity measures.

13.1.5 The National Plant Pest Risk Mitigation Program will be reviewed annually by Plant Health Australia, in conjunction with the Parties, as part of Plant Health Australia’s annual review process.

13.1.6 Progress in implementation of Biosecurity strategies for government Parties and Industry Parties will be reviewed by Plant Health Australia, in conjunction with the Parties, commencing in October 2005 and again commencing in October 2006.

13.1.7 The Parties agree that:

(a) substantial advantages may arise for both plant and animal industries from a mutual approach to Biosecurity and risk mitigation;

(b) separately from cost sharing arrangements, Plant Health Australia is to investigate with relevant animal industries, animal health authorities, and human health and environmental groups and agencies, options for a cooperative, holistic approach to Biosecurity and risk management and mitigation strategies, including alternative future sustainable funding mechanisms; and
Plant Health Australia must report within 24 months of the Operative Date to the Parties on the feasibility and utility of a cooperative, holistic approach.

14 Commitment of Government Party Resources to EPP Response Capacity

14.1.1 The Parties agree that, for at least the first 12 months of operation of the Deed following the Operative Date, the manner of determination of the costs to be shared set out in Part 4 of Schedule 6 will be maintained.

14.1.2 During that period the Parties will work to determine existing and required resource commitments and to define the costs that a State or Territory consider to be “normal” and which should be considered as a baseline above which other costs are to be shared.

14.1.3 Any change to the interim arrangement set out in Part 4 of Schedule 6 may only be adopted with the agreement of all Parties.

14.1.4 The Parties note the development of performance standards for Australia’s plant health services will be required and agree that, once settled, these will apply to activities under this Deed.

15 Obligations in respect of personnel

15.1.1 Each Party must ensure that any of its personnel (including its officers, employees and contractors) who participate in the NMG, the CCEPP, a Categorisation Group or other functions under this Deed do so in accordance with the terms of this Deed.

16 Amendment of Schedules

16.1.1 If:

(a) a process is conducted pursuant to this Deed and the final step of the process requires Plant Health Australia to make an amendment to a Schedule; or

(b) a Party gives Plant Health Australia a notice pursuant to clause 31.1.1 and Plant Health Australia is satisfied that:

(i) the notice requires the making of an amendment to a Schedule; and

(ii) the making of the amendment will not concern or affect the rights or obligations of another Party,

Plant Health Australia may make the amendment by providing to all Parties a copy of the amended Schedule (version numbered and dated for identification purposes), together with a statement of the particulars of the process or notice.

16.1.2 A Party may lodge an objection to the amended Schedule by giving a notice pursuant to clause 31.1.1 which must:
16.1.3 On receipt of an objection pursuant to clause 16.1.2, Plant Health Australia must:
   (a) promptly notify all Parties of the objection; and
   (b) submit the objection to the next meeting of the Board of Plant Health Australia, the decision of which in respect of the objection will be final.

16.1.4 Plant Health Australia must promptly notify the Parties of the decision of the Board and, if the Board upholds the objection, that the amended Schedule is withdrawn and has no effect.

16.1.5 If the Board of Plant Health Australia rejects an objection to an amended Schedule, the amendment to the Schedule takes effect 30 days after the date of the decision by the Board of Plant Health Australia.

16.1.6 If there is no objection to a notification of an amendment to a Schedule, the amendment to the Schedule takes effect 30 days after the date of its despatch by Plant Health Australia pursuant to clause 16.1.1.

17  Variation or Termination
17.1 Varying or terminating Deed

17.1.1 Subject to clause 2.3, if at any time during the term of this Deed the Parties wish to vary or terminate this Deed, they must negotiate in good faith in regard to:
   (a) that variation or termination; and
   (b) the effect of that variation or termination upon the existence and operation of the EPP Program and any Response Plan being undertaken.

17.2 Variation or termination in writing

17.2.1 No variation or termination to this Deed will be of any force or effect unless the same is confirmed in writing, signed by each Party, and then such variation or termination will be effective only to the extent for which it has been made or given.

17.2.2 Each Party must advise Plant Health Australia, in a 'Nomination of Authorised Signatory' notice substantially conforming with Part 1 of Schedule 16, the details of the person authorised by the Party from time to time to approve on behalf of the Party a variation or termination to this Deed.

17.2.3 The Parties may vary the Deed by the following process:
   (a) Plant Health Australia is to serve a notice on each Party setting out the proposed variation(s) together with a brief statement of its purpose;
(b) each Party may signify its approval of the proposed variation(s) by returning a duly completed notice of ‘Approval of Variation to Provisions’ substantially conforming with Part 2 of Schedule 16; and

(c) the variation(s) takes effect from the date on which Plant Health Australia gives notice to the Parties that it has received duly authorised Approval of the Variation to Provisions notices from all Parties.

17.2.4 The Parties may terminate the Deed by consent by means of a Deed of termination which they all execute.

17.3 Position of Plant Health Australia

17.3.1 In the event that any of the payments referred to in this Deed which should be made to Plant Health Australia are not made and the non-payment:

(a) materially affects Plant Health Australia’s ability to meet its obligations under the Deed; and

(b) is not due to the default of Plant Health Australia,

Plant Health Australia will not be required, nor liable in respect of any failure, to meet any obligation which would otherwise arise pursuant to this Deed, unless or until such time as Plant Health Australia receives the outstanding payment(s) in accordance with this Deed.

18 Severability

In interpreting a provision of this Deed, the provision must, to the extent possible, be read so as to ensure that it is not illegal, invalid or unenforceable. If any provision or part of it cannot be so read, the provision or part of it must be deemed to be void and severable and the remaining provisions of this Deed shall, provided that they can be applied in accordance with the spirit of the Deed, not in any way be affected or impaired.

19 Waiver

The failure, delay, relaxation or indulgence on the part of any Party in exercising any power or right given to that Party under this Deed does not operate as a waiver of that power or right, nor will it entitle a Party to claim that another Party is estopped from exercising the power or rights. A single exercise of a power or right will not be construed as precluding any other or further exercise of it or the exercise of any other power or right under this Deed. A power or right may only be waived in writing, signed by the Party or Parties to be bound by the waiver.

20 Proper Law

20.1 Jurisdiction of the Courts

20.1.1 This Deed and the transactions contemplated by it must be construed and take effect in accordance with and governed by the laws of the Australian Capital Territory, Australia and its form, execution, validity, construction and effect must be determined in accordance with the laws of the Australian Capital
Territory and the Parties hereby submit themselves to the jurisdiction of the courts in and of the Australian Capital Territory and the Federal Court of Australia and the respective courts of appeal therefrom.

20.2 High Court of Australia

20.2.1 The submission to the jurisdiction of the courts of the Australian Capital Territory and to the Federal Court of Australia is exclusive except in so far as the High Court of Australia has jurisdiction to hear any matter involving the Commonwealth or any constitutional matter.

20.3 State and Territory Laws apply to the conduct of a Response Plan

20.3.1 Nothing in this Deed and nothing in this clause 20 is to be construed as requiring the conduct of a Response Plan by a State or Territory agency in a manner contrary to the laws applying in that State or Territory.

21 Further Assurance

Each Party must, at its own expense, on the request of any other Party, sign and execute all deeds, documents, notices, instruments and schedules, and do and perform all acts and things which are reasonable and necessary in order to carry out and give effect to the terms and conditions of this Deed and the transactions contemplated by it, whether before or after the execution of the Deed by all of the Parties.

22 Counterparts

This Deed may be executed in any number of counterparts and all of such counterparts when so executed will be an original but all of which taken together will be deemed to constitute one and the same instrument.

23 Agency

No Party to this Deed has, except as otherwise specified in this Deed, any right to act on behalf of, represent itself as agent for, or otherwise bind, any other Party.

24 Entire Agreement

This Deed constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties in relation to the subject matter of this Deed. Any prior arrangements, agreements, representations or undertakings are superseded and each Party acknowledges that it has not relied on any arrangement, agreement, representation or understanding which is not expressly set out in this Deed.

25 Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution

25.1 Notice of Disputes

25.1.1 In the event of any disagreement or dispute arising between any or all of the Parties as to the interpretation, implementation or enforcement of any term of this Deed, any Party concerned may send a notice to all of the Parties setting out the details of that dispute (“Notice of Dispute”).
25.1.2 A Party which serves a Notice of Dispute may withdraw it by giving written notice to all Parties.

25.2 Resolution of Disputes

25.2.1 Following receipt of a Notice of Dispute each Party must enter into good faith discussions with other Parties with a view to resolving the dispute.

25.2.2 Where the Parties have not resolved the matter the subject of the Notice of Dispute within 28 days of the date of despatch of the Notice of Dispute to the Parties, any Party may require that the matter be referred for mediation or alternative dispute resolution by notice to all of the parties (“Notice of ADR”). Decisions reached by alternative dispute resolution should be final and binding on the Parties.

25.2.3 Each Party which receives a Notice of ADR which wishes to be involved in the dispute resolution process (“Concerned Party”) must, within seven days of receipt of the Notice of ADR, so advise the sender in writing.

25.2.4 Where a Notice of ADR has been served by one of the Parties, the Concerned Parties must seek to agree on a suitably qualified person to undertake the mediation or alternative dispute resolution within fourteen days of the date of despatch of the Notice of ADR.

25.2.5 If the Concerned Parties are unable to agree Unanimously on the selection of such person within fourteen days of the date of despatch of the Notice of ADR, the matter must be referred to the President of the Law Society of the Australian Capital Territory at that time, for that President or his or her nominee to appoint a suitably qualified person who has not previously acted for any of the Concerned Parties to conduct the mediation or alternative dispute resolution.

25.2.6 Any costs or expenses associated with the mediation or alternative dispute resolution must be paid by the Concerned Parties in equal shares unless recommended otherwise by the person conducting the mediation or alternative dispute resolution process.

26 Exercise of Functions and Powers

The obligations of the Commonwealth and the States and Territories under this Deed are subject to any statutory or common law requirements applying to the exercise of statutory or executive powers or duties which must be exercised in the performance of those obligations.

27 Protection of Personal Information

27.1 Use of Personal Information

27.1.1 Each Party agrees to:

(a) use Personal Information as defined in the Privacy Act 1988 (the “Act”) held or controlled by it in connection with this Deed only for the purposes of fulfilling its obligations under this Deed;
(b) take all reasonable measures to ensure that Personal Information in its possession or control in connection with this Deed is protected against loss and unauthorised access, use, modification or disclosure;

(c) comply with the Information Privacy Principles and, to the extent they provide additional coverage, any of the National Privacy Principles (jointly the Principles) contained in the Act to the extent that the content of those Principles apply to the types of activities the Party is undertaking under this Deed, as if the Party were an agency as defined in the Act;

(d) cooperate with any reasonable demands or inquiries made by the Commonwealth on the basis of the exercise of the functions of the Privacy Commissioner under the Act including, but not limited to, a request from the Commonwealth to comply with a guideline concerning the handling of Personal Information;

(e) ensure that any person who has an access level which would enable that person to obtain access to any Personal Information is made aware of, and undertakes in writing to observe, the Principles and other obligations referred to in this clause 27;

(f) comply as far as practicable with any policy guidelines laid down by the Commonwealth or issued by the Privacy Commissioner from time to time relating to the handling of Personal Information; and

(g) comply with any reasonable direction of the Commonwealth to observe any recommendation of the Privacy Commissioner relating to any acts or practices of the Party that the Privacy Commissioner considers breaches the obligations in this clause 27.

27.2 Meaning of Personal Information

27.2.1 In this clause 27, ‘Personal Information’ means information or an opinion (including information or an opinion forming part of a database), whether true or not, and whether recorded in a material form or not, about a natural person whose identity is apparent, or can reasonably be ascertained, from the information or opinion.

28 Insurance

Plant Health Australia must:

(a) take out in respect of itself, its employees, contractors and agents all appropriate insurance (including any workers’ compensation as required by law) and public risk insurance relating to the performance of its obligations under this Deed (“Required Insurance”); and

(b) promptly provide to any other Party on request proof of the currency of such insurance.
29 Confidentiality

29.1.1 A Party must not copy, reproduce, divulge, publish or circulate (or authorise or permit anyone else to copy, reproduce, divulge, publish or circulate) any of the Confidential Information disclosed or communicated to it by any other Party except:

(a) to or for such of its employees or Representatives as may require access to the Confidential Information on a strict need-to-know basis in the proper performance of the Deed; or

(b) to the extent necessary to permit the Commonwealth or a State or Territory to report to that Party's Parliament or its committees, or to such of the Party's government agency(s) or instrumentality(s) to which it is required to disclose such information; or

(c) as is reasonably necessary for the conduct of legal proceedings by a Party; or

(d) as required by law.

30 Conflict of interest

30.1 Plant Health Australia obligations

30.1.1 Plant Health Australia warrants that, to the best of its knowledge after making diligent inquiry, at the date of this Deed no conflict of interest exists or is likely to arise for the performance of its obligations under this Deed by itself or by its officers, employees, agents or contractors.

30.1.2 If during the term of this Deed a conflict of interest arises, or appears likely to arise, Plant Health Australia undertakes to notify the other Parties immediately in writing and to take such steps as the other Parties may reasonably require to resolve or otherwise deal with the conflict.

30.1.3 Plant Health Australia must not, and must ensure that its officers, employees, agents or contractors do not, engage in any activity or obtain any interest during the term of this Deed that is likely to conflict with or restrict the conduct of the Deed by Plant Health Australia fairly and independently.

31 Notices

31.1 Service of Notices

31.1.1 Any formal notice, request or other communication to be given or served by a Party or Parties on another Party or other Parties pursuant to this Deed must be in writing and addressed, as the case may be, to the contact officer of the Party or Parties at the postal or email address set out in Schedule 2 or to such other person or at such other address as may be advised by a Party to the other Parties from time to time.

31.1.2 A notice, request or other communication which concerns or affects the rights or obligations of a Party or Parties under this Deed must be delivered by hand or sent by pre-paid post or facsimile, to the address of such a Party. Any other
notice may be delivered by those means or by e-mail to the address of the Party to which it is sent.

31.2 **Deemed time of service of Notices**

31.2.1 A Notice will be deemed to have been duly served:

(a) if delivered by hand, upon delivery;

(b) if in the form of a letter sent by pre-paid ordinary post within Australia, upon the expiration of 2 business days after the date on which it was sent provided that deemed receipt of a Notice by letter may be rebutted by proof of non-receipt;

(c) if in the form of a letter posted to or from a place outside Australia, upon delivery;

(d) if by facsimile transmission, at 9:00a.m. on the next business day following the day on which the sender’s facsimile machine records that the facsimile has been property transmitted to the recipient, provided that the deemed receipt of a Notice by facsimile may be rebutted by proof of non-receipt; and

(e) if sent by email, when the sender receives an acknowledgement from the human recipient (rather than an electronically generated message from the recipient’s computer) that the email has been received.

32 **Intellectual Property**

This Deed will not affect the ordinary operation of principles of Intellectual Property. However, each Party which creates (or the personnel of which create) materials for the purposes of this Deed in which Intellectual Property rights subsist (including materials created for NMG, the CCEPP or the Categorisation Group) grants a royalty free, perpetual, irrevocable licence to the other Parties to use those materials for the purposes of undertaking the activities contemplated by the Deed.
EXECUTED as a DEED

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by PLANT HEALTH AUSTRALIA LIMITED (ABN 97 092 607 997) in the presence of:

Director

(name printed)

Director/Secretary

(name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA (ABN 24 113 085 695) by its authorised officer in the presence of:

Witness: __________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND (ABN 78 342 684 030) by its authorised officer in the presence of:

Witness: __________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by THE CROWN IN RIGHT OF THE STATE OF TASMANIA (ABN 58 259 330 901) by its authorised officer in the presence of: ) EXECUTED________________________

Witness: ____________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by THE STATE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (ABN 18 951 343 745) by its authorised officer in the presence of: ) EXECUTED________________________

Witness: ____________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by THE NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA (ABN 84 085 734 992) by its authorised officer in the presence of: ) EXECUTED________________________

Witness: ____________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (ABN 37 307 569 373) by its authorised officer in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: __________________________

(witness name printed)

__________________________

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by APPLE AND PEAR AUSTRALIA LTD. (ACN 101 551 348) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: __________________________

(witness name printed)

__________________________

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN BANANA GROWERS’ COUNCIL INC. (ABN 60 381 740 734) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: __________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN CANE GROWERS’ COUNCIL LTD. (ABN 26 051 583 549) in the presence of:  

Witness: ____________________________  

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by CITRUS AUSTRALIA LTD. (ABN 75 130 238 792) in the presence of:  

Witness: ____________________________  

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by COTTON AUSTRALIA LTD. (ABN 24 054 122 879) in the presence of:  

Witness: ____________________________  

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC. (ABN 63 939 614 424) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ___________________________

__________________________________
(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN MANGO INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION LTD. (ABN 50 713 775 301) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ___________________________

__________________________________
(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN VEGETABLE AND POTATO GROWERS’ FEDERATION INC. (ABN 20 870 994 238) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ___________________________

__________________________________
(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AVOCADOS AUSTRALIA LTD. (ABN 87 105 853 807) in the presence of:  

)  

)  

) EXECUTED__________________________

Witness: ______________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by GRAINS COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA INC. (ABN 66 675 415 182) in the presence of:  

)  

)  

) EXECUTED__________________________

Witness: ______________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by QUEENSLAND FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWERS LTD. (GROWCOM) (ABN 51 090 816 827) in the presence of:  

)  

)  

) EXECUTED__________________________

Witness: ______________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by RICEGROWERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC. (ABN 65 191 537 636) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ____________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by STRAWBERRIES AUSTRALIA INC. (ABN 53 635 363 679) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ____________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by SUMMERFRUIT AUSTRALIA LTD. (ABN 51 105 962 196) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ____________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN MACADAMIA SOCIETY LTD (ABN 19 010 689 415) in the presence of:

Witness: __________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by ALMOND BOARD OF AUSTRALIA INC. (ABN 31 709 079 099) in the presence of:

Witness: __________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN DRIED FRUIT ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 88 658 293 079) in the presence of:

Witness: __________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN OLIVE ASSOCIATION LTD. (ABN 57 072 977 489) in the presence of:

Witness: ____________________________

EXECUTED__________________________

(witness name printed)

---

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIA PROCESSING TOMATO RESEARCH COUNCIL INC. (ABN 33 014 204 969) in the presence of:

Witness: ____________________________

EXECUTED__________________________

(witness name printed)

---

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN TABLE GRAPE ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 69 953 034 946) in the presence of:

Witness: ____________________________

EXECUTED__________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN WALNUT INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 26 468 336 213) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ________________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by CANNED FRUIT INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LTD. (ACN 051 989 336) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ________________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by CHERRY GROWERS OF AUSTRALIA INC. (ABN 77 797 945 686) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ________________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN ONION INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 26 558 335 296) in the presence of:  

Witness: ________________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by PISTACHIO GROWERS ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 24 020 078 504) in the presence of:  

Witness: ________________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by CHESTNUTS AUSTRALIA INC. (ABN 11 727 740 190) in the presence of:  

Witness: ________________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION LTD. (ABN 11 727 740 190) in the presence of: ) EXECUTED________________________

Witness: ________________________________

___________________________
(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN GINGER INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 97 981 376 529) in the presence of: ) EXECUTED________________________

Witness: ________________________________

___________________________
(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by RASPBERRIES AND BLACKBERRIES AUSTRALIA INC. (ABN 42 861 675 811) in the presence of: ) EXECUTED________________________

Witness: ________________________________

___________________________
(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by HAZELNUT GROWERS OF AUSTRALIA INC. in the presence of:

Witness: ____________________________

______________________________
(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN MELON ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 36 990 325 012) in the presence of:

Witness: ____________________________

______________________________
(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN SWEETPOOTATO GROWERS INC. (ABN 82 577 850 667) in the presence of:

Witness: ____________________________

______________________________
(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN LYCHEE GROWERS ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 45 591 381 594) in the presence of: EXECUTED

Witness: ____________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN TEA TREE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION LTD. (ABN 48 077 019 204) in the presence of: EXECUTED ____________________________

Witness: ____________________________

(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN TRUFFLE GROWERS ASSOCIATION INC. (ABN 57 816 021 891) in the presence of: EXECUTED ____________________________

Witness: ____________________________

(witness name printed)
Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by AUSTRALIAN GRAPE AND WINE INC. (ABN 45 903 873 163) in the presence of: EXECUTED________________________

Witness: ____________________________

_______________________________
(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by GREENLIFE INDUSTRY AUSTRALIA LTD. (ABN 59 634 584 017) in the presence of: EXECUTED________________________

Witness: ____________________________

_______________________________
(witness name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered on [insert date] by PASSIONFRUIT AUSTRALIA INC. (ABN 98 212 907 857) in the presence of: EXECUTED________________________

Witness: ____________________________

_______________________________
(witness name printed)
# TABLE OF SCHEDULES

Schedule 1 - Principles for interpretation of the Deed .............................................................. 56

Schedule 2 - Notices ..................................................................................................................... 58

Schedule 3 - Categories of Emergency Plant Pests ................................................................. 68
  1 Categorisation of EPPs........................................................................................................ 68
  2 Process for categorisation, re-categorisation or removal of an EPP and for review of Funding Weights ........................................................................................................ 69
  3 Guide to parties seeking categorisation/re-categorisation/removal ...................................... 71
  4 Guide to parties seeking review of Funding Weights ............................................................. 72

Schedule 4 - Development and Management of a Response Plan .............................................. 74
  1 Structure and content of an Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan ("Response Plan") ......................... 74
  2 Key roles under the National EPP Training Program ............................................................. 74

Schedule 5 - PLANTPLAN Documentation ................................................................................. 75
  1 PLANTPLAN ................................................................................................................... 75
  2 Related Species specific Contingency Plans ......................................................................... 75

Schedule 6 - Cost Sharing .......................................................................................................... 76
  1 Government Funding ...................................................................................................... 76
  2 Application of the formulae to determine Industry Party shares ........................................ 77
  3 Determination of proportional shares .................................................................................. 81
  4 Determination of costs ...................................................................................................... 83

Schedule 7 - Funding of Cost Sharing Obligations ..................................................................... 94
  1 Payment of Industry Party shares of Cost Sharing ........................................................... 94
  2 Mechanism for determination of the costs of a Response Plan ........................................... 98
  3 Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops Represented by Plant Health Australia Members ........................................................ 99

Schedule 8 - Consultation .......................................................................................................... 103
  2 The CCEPP .................................................................................................................. 105
  3 Membership of the CCEPP in respect of an EPP ............................................................. 106
  4 Categorisation Group ...................................................................................................... 107

Schedule 9 – Confidentiality Deed Poll ..................................................................................... 109

Schedule 10 – Accounting and reporting ................................................................................... 112
  1 Statement of Expenditure ............................................................................................... 112
  2 Monitoring of expenditure .............................................................................................. 114

Schedule 11 – Auditing ............................................................................................................. 115
  1 Efficiency Auditing ...................................................................................................... 115
  2 Financial Auditing ...................................................................................................... 115

Schedule 12 – Deed of Accession ............................................................................................. 117
Schedule 13 – Categorised EPPs ........................................................................................................122
Schedule 14 – Agreed Limits ...........................................................................................................125
Schedule 15 – Statements by Government and Industry Parties on Biosecurity Policies and Programs ..........................................................................................................................126
Schedule 16 – Process for Variation or Termination of Deed ........................................................283
Schedule 17 – Guidelines for Owner Reimbursement Costs ........................................................285
Schedule 1 - Principles for interpretation of the Deed

(clause 1.2)

1.1 Words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular.

1.2 To the extent of any conflict between the terms and conditions contained in the clauses of this Deed and any provisions of the Schedules, the clauses will take precedence over the provisions of the Schedules.

1.3 All sums of money and all payments made under this Deed will be in Australian dollars, and the symbol "$" will be interpreted to mean Australian dollars.

1.4 Where the last day of any period prescribed or allowed by this Deed for the doing of any thing falls on a Saturday, on a Sunday or on a day that is a public holiday or a bank holiday in the place where that thing is to be done or may be done, then the thing may be done on the first day following which is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a public holiday or bank holiday in that place.

1.5 A reference to this Deed means this Deed as modified, amended or varied in accordance with its provisions or any order of a court of competent jurisdiction or applicable law and a reference to another contract, deed, or similar instrument means that other contract, deed or similar instrument (as the case may be) as modified, amended or varied, including any modification, amendment or variation imposed or effected by a court of competent jurisdiction or by an applicable law.

1.6 A reference to an applicable law will mean any applicable statute, Act, code, ordinance, regulation, proclamation or any instrument of subordinate legislation.

1.7 A reference to a statute, Act, code, ordinance, regulation, proclamation or any instrument of subordinate legislation will mean that statute, Act, code, ordinance, regulation, proclamation or instrument of subordinate legislation (as the case may be) as amended, varied or modified from time to time, and will include a reference to any other instruments made under them and to any other statute, Act, code, ordinance, regulation, proclamation or instrument of subordinate legislation which replaces them.

1.8 ‘Person’ will be taken to include a body corporate, an unincorporated association, a firm or partnership (whether limited or unlimited) and an authority or organisation, notwithstanding that any of them may not be legal persons.

1.9 A reference to a thing (including a reference to an amount) is a reference to the whole and each part of the thing.

1.10 A reference to a group of persons is a reference to all of them collectively and to any two or more of them collectively and to each of them individually.

1.11 References to a person include the legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns of that person.

1.12 References to writing include any mode of representing or reproducing words in tangible and permanently visible form, and include telex, e-mail and facsimile transmissions.

1.13 An obligation of two or more Parties binds them jointly and severally.
1.14 If a word or phrase is defined, cognate words and phrases have corresponding definitions.

1.15 References to a body which has ceased to exist or has been reconstituted, amalgamated, reconstructed or merged, or the functions of which have become exercisable by any other person or body in its place, must be taken to refer to the person or body established or constituted in its place or the person or body by which its functions have become exercisable.

1.16 References to any matter or thing which is required to be agreed upon by the Parties must be taken to require the agreement of all the Parties to this Deed.

1.17 If a period of time dates from a given day or the day of an act or event, it is to be calculated exclusive of that day.

1.18 A day is to be interpreted as the period of time commencing at midnight and ending 24 hours later.
Schedule 2 - Notices

Plant Health Australia Ltd.
Contact Person: Ms Sarah Corcoran
              Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: Level 1, 1 Phipps Close, DEAKIN ACT 2600
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: N/A
Email: epprd@phau.com.au

Commonwealth of Australia
Contact Person: First Assistant Secretary – Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division
              Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
Street Address: 18 Marcus Clarke Street, CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601
Postal Address: GPO Box 858, CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601
Facsimile: (02) 6272 3372
Email: nmg@agriculture.gov.au

The State of Queensland
Contact Person: Mike Ashton
              Chief Plant Health Manager
              Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
Street Address: Level 2, 41 George Street, BRISBANE QLD 4000
Postal Address: GPO Box 46, BRISBANE QLD 4001
Facsimile: (07) 3087 8105
Email: mike.ashton@daf.qld.gov.au

The State of New South Wales
Contact Person: Dr Bruce M Christie
              Executive Director Biosecurity NSW
              NSW Department of Primary Industries
Street Address: Woodbridge Road, MENANGLE NSW 2568
Postal Address: Private Bag 4008, NARELLAN NSW 2567
Facsimile: (02) 4640 6437
Email: bruce.christie@dpi.nsw.gov.au

The State of Victoria
Contact Person: Dr Rosa Crnov
              Chief Plant Health Officer
              Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions
Street Address: 475 Mickleham Road, ATTWOOD VIC 3049
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: N/A
Email: rosa.crnov@ecodev.vic.gov.au
The State of South Australia
Contact Person: Dr Ross Meffin
General Manager Plant and Food Standards
Biosecurity South Australia
Department of Primary Industries and Regions South Australia
Street Address: 33 Flemington Street, GLENSIDE SA 5065
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: N/A
Email: ross.meffin@sa.gov.au

The State of Tasmania
Contact Person: Mr Andrew Bishop
Chief Plant Health Manager, Biosecurity and Product Integrity Division
Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
Street Address: Stoney Rise Government Centre
Rundle Road, DEVONPORT TAS 7310
Postal Address: PO Box 303, DEVONPORT TAS 7310
Facsimile: (03) 6424 5142
Email: andrew.bishop@dpipwe.tas.gov.au

The State of Western Australia
Contact Person: Chief Plant Biosecurity Officer
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
Street Address: 3 Baron-Hay Court, SOUTH PERTH WA 6151
Postal Address: Locked Bag 4, BENTLEY DELIVERY CENTRE WA 6983
Facsimile: N/A
Email: chiefplantbiosecurityofficer@agric.wa.gov.au

The Northern Territory of Australia
Contact Person: Dr Anne Walters
Chief Plant Health Officer
Department of Primary Industry and Resources
Street Address: 29 Makagon Road, BERRIMAH NT 0828
Postal Address: GPO Box 3000, DARWIN NT 0801
Facsimile: N/A
Email: anne.walters@nt.gov.au

The Australian Capital Territory
Contact Person: Executive Director, Environment
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate Territory and Municipal Services
Street Address: 480 Northbourne Avenue, Dickson, ACT 2602
Postal Address: PO Box 158, CANBERRA ACT 2601
Facsimile: N/A
Email: EPDMinisterials-Environment@act.gov.au
Almond Board of Australia Inc.
Contact Person: Mr Ross Skinner
Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: N/A
Postal Address: PO Box 1507, LOXTON SA 5333
Facsimile: (08) 8582 3503
Email: rskinner@australianalmonds.com.au

Contact Person: Deidre Jaensch
Industry Development Manager
Street Address: 66 Madden Avenue, MILDURA VICTORIA 3500
Postal Address: PO Box 1507 LOXTON SA 5333
Facsimile: (08) 8582 3503
Email: djaensch@australianalmonds.com.au

Apple and Pear Australia Ltd.
Contact Person: Rosalie Daniel
Technical Manager
Street Address: Suite G.02, 128 Jolimont Road, EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: N/A
Email: rdaniel@apal.org.au

Australian Banana Growers’ Council Inc.
Contact Person: Mr Jim Pekin
Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: 250 Sherwood Road, ROCKLEA QLD 4106
Postal Address: PO Box 309, BRISBANE MARKET QLD 4106
Facsimile: (07) 3221 2436
Email: jim.pekin@abgc.org.au

Contact Person: Ms Michelle McKinlay
Industry Strategy Manager
Street Address: Unit 3, South Gate East Commercial Centre, 250 Sherwood Road, ROCKLEA QLD 4106
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: (07) 3278 4938
Email: michelle.mckinlay@abgc.org.au

Australian Cane Growers’ Council Ltd.
Contact Person: Michael Quirk
Manager – Environment and Sustainability
Street Address: Level 6, 100 Edward Street, BRISBANE QLD 4000
Postal Address: GPO Box 1032 BRISBANE QLD 4001
Facsimile: (07) 3864 6473
Email: michael_quirk@canegrowers.com.au
**Australian Forest Products Association Ltd.**
Contact Person: Natalie Heazlewood  
Policy Manager  
Street Address: 24 Napier Close, DEAKIN WEST ACT 2600  
Postal Address: PO Box 239 DEAKIN WEST ACT 2600  
Facsimile: N/A  
Email: natalie.heazlewood@ausfpa.com.au

**Australian Ginger Industry Association Inc.**
Contact Person: Katarina Keating  
Secretary  
Street Address: N/A  
Postal Address: PO Box 21, KANDANGA QLD 4570  
Facsimile: N/A  
Email: admin@australianginger.org.au

**Australian Grape and Wine Inc.**
Contact Person: Anna Hooper  
Manager, Industry Policy  
Street Address: Level 1, Industry House, National Wine Centre, Botanic Road, ADELAIDE SA 5000  
Postal Address: PO Box 2414, KENT TOWN DC SA 5071  
Facsimile: (08) 8133 4366  
Email: anna@agw.org.au

**Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc.**
Contact Person: Helen Goodall  
Chief Executive Officer  
Street Address: N/A  
Postal Address: PO Box 42, MACQUARIE ACT 2614  
Facsimile: N/A  
Email: ahbic@honeybee.org.au

**Australian Lychee Growers Association Inc.**
Contact Person: Jill Houser  
Executive Officer  
Street Address: 116 Old Gympie Road, MOOLOOLAH QLD 4553  
Postal Address: PO BOX 6120, MOOLOOLAH QLD 4553  
Facsimile: N/A  
Email: algaeo@australianlychee.com.au

**Australian Macadamia Society Ltd.**
Contact Person: Mr Jolyon Burnett  
Chief Executive Officer  
Street Address: 1/113 Dawson Street, LISMORE NSW 2480  
Postal Address: As above  
Facsimile: (02) 6622 4932  
Email: jolyon.burnett@macadamias.org
Australian Mango Industry Association Ltd.
Contact Person: Robert Gray
Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: Unit 2, The Fresh Centre, 385 Sherwood Road, ROCKLEA QLD 4106
Postal Address: PO Box 376, BRISBANE MARKET QLD 4106
Facsimile: N/A
Email: ceo@mangoes.net.au

Australian Melon Association Inc.
Contact Person: Mrs Dianne Fullelove
Industry Development Manager
Street Address: N/A
Postal Address: PO Box 913, KENMORE QLD 4069
Facsimile: N/A
Email: idp@melonsaustralia.org.au

Australian Olive Association Ltd.
Contact Person: Mr Peter McFarlane
AOA Biosecurity Representative
Street Address: 33 Phillipps Street, SOMERTON PARK SA 5044
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: (08) 8376 7048
Email: peter@mc.com.au

Australian Processing Tomato Research Council Inc.
Contact Person: Bill Ashcroft
Acting Industry Development Manager
Street Address: N/A
Postal Address: PO Box 2293, SHEPPARTON VIC 3632
Facsimile: N/A
Email: aptrc.idm@gmail.com

Australian Sweetpotato Growers Inc.
Contact Person: ASPG Secretary
Street Address: 34 McCracken Street BUNDABERG QLD 4670
Postal Address: PO Box 4350, BUNDABERG SOUTH QLD 4670
Facsimile: N/A
Email: aspg.sec@gmail.com

Australian Table Grape Association Inc.
Contact Person: Mr Jeff Scott
Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: 33 Madden Avenue, MILDURA VIC 3500
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: (03) 5021 5718
Email: jscott@atga.net.au
Australian Tea Tree Industry Association Ltd.
Contact Person: Tony Larkman
Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: PO Box 903, CASINO NSW 2470
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: (07) 5604 1629
Email: tlarkman@attia.org.au

Australian Truffle Growers Association Inc.
Contact Person: Dr Peter Stahle
President
Street Address: 84 Richmond Terrace, RICHMOND VIC 3121
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: N/A
Email: truffe.a.toi@gmail.com

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc.
Contact Person: Sally Smith
Secretary
Street Address: N/A
Postal Address: PO Box 80 MOYHU VIC 3732
Facsimile: (03) 9802 8670
Email: awiassec@walnut.net.au

AUSVEG Ltd.
Contact Person: Carol Knight
Executive Assistant
Street Address: 3 Glenarm Road, GLEN IRIS VIC 3124
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: (03) 9882 6722
Email: carol.knight@ausveg.com.au

Contact Person: Zarmeen Hassan
National Manager, Engagement and Extension
Street Address: 3 Glenarm Road, GLEN IRIS VIC 3124
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: (03) 9882 6722
Email: zarmeen.hassan@ausveg.com.au

Avocados Australia Ltd.
Contact Person: John Tyas
Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: Unit 13, Level 1 Fresh Centre, 385 Sherwood Road, ROCKLEA QLD 4106
Postal Address: PO Box 134, BRISBANE MARKETS, QLD 4106
Facsimile: (07) 3846 6577
Email: ceo@avocado.org.au
Canned Fruit Industry Council of Australia Ltd.
Contact Person: Mr Chris Pollard
Street Address: 2 Rumbalara Road, MOOROOPNA VIC 3629
Postal Address: PO Box 612, MOOROOPNA VIC 3629
Facsimile: (03) 5833 2365
Email: chris.pollard@spc.com.au

Cherry Growers of Australia Inc.
Contact Person: Mr Thomas Eastlake
President
Street Address: Argyle Street, HOBART TAS 7000
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: N/A
Email: president@cherrygrowers.org.au

Chestnuts Australia Inc.
Contact Person: Ms Tanya Edwards
Communications Officer
Street Address: PO Box 472, MYRTLEFORD VIC 3737
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: N/A
Email: admin@chestnutsaustralia.com.au

Citrus Australia Ltd.
Contact Person: Mr Nathan Hancock
Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: 94 Lemon Avenue, MILDURA VIC 3500
Postal Address: PO Box 10336, MILDURA VIC 3500
Facsimile: (03) 5023 3877
Email: nathan.hancock@citrusaustralia.com.au

Cotton Australia Ltd.
Contact Person: Sally Ceeney
Research Direction & Stewardship Policy Officer
Street Address: Suite 4.01, 247 Coward Street, MASCOT NSW 2020
Postal Address: PO Box 304, WARREN NSW 2824
Facsimile: N/A
Email: sallyc@cotton.org.au

Dried Fruits Australia Inc.
Contact Person: Anne Mansell
Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: 54 Lemon Avenue, MILDURA VIC 3500
Postal Address: PO Box 5042, MILDURA VIC 3502
Facsimile: (03) 5023 3321
Email: amansell@driedfruitsaustralia.org.au
Grain Producers Australia Ltd.
Contact Person: Mr Barry Large
Street Address N/A
Postal Address: PO Box 3517, MANUKA ACT 2603
Facsimile: (02) 6273 3756
Email: moorlands6510@gmail.com

Greenlife Industry Australia Ltd.
Contact Person: Mr Peter Vaughan
Chief Executive Officer
Street Address Unit 58, 5 Gladstone Road, CASTLE HILL NSW 2154
Postal Address: PO Box 7129, BAULKHAM HILLS BC NSW 2153
Facsimile: N/A
Email: peter.vaughan@greenlifeindustry.com.au

Contact Person: Mr John McDonald
National Biosecurity Manager
Street Address Unit 1/250 Orange Grove Road, SALISBURY QLD 4107
Postal Address: PO Box 345, SALISBURY QLD 4107
Facsimile: N/A
Email: john.mcdonald@greenlifeindustry.com.au

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc.
Contact Person: Sallianne Faulkner
President
Street Address 29 Alice Street, SANS SOUCI NSW 2219
Postal Address: PO Box 48, SANS SOUCI NSW 2219
Facsimile: N/A
Email: salliannef@optusnet.com.au

Onions Australia Inc.
Contact Person: Ms Lechelle Earl
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Street Address N/A
Postal Address: PO Box 9420, MOUNT GAMBIER WEST SA 5291
Facsimile: (08) 8725 8863
Email: lechelle@onionsaustralia.org.au

Passionfruit Australia Inc.
Contact Person: To be advised
Pistachio Growers Association Inc.
Contact Person: Mr Trevor Ranford
    Executive Officer
Street Address: 27 Ludgate Hill Road, ALDGATE SA 5154
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: N/A
Email: sahort@bigpond.com

Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers Ltd. (Growcom)
Contact Person: Janine Clark
    Manager Chemical Access
Street Address: Level 3, 183 North Quay, BRISBANE QLD 4001
Postal Address: PO Box 202, FORTITUDE VALLEY QLD 4006
Facsimile: (07) 3620-3880
Email: jclark@growcom.com.au

Raspberries and Blackberries Australia Inc.
Contact Person: Rachel Mackenzie
    Executive Director
Street Address: N/A
Postal Address: Level 8, 183 North Quay, BRISBANE QLD 4002
Facsimile: N/A
Email: rachelmackenzie@berries.net.au

Ricegrowers’ Association of Australia Inc.
Contact Person: Mr Graeme Kruger
    Executive Director
Street Address: PO Box 706, LEETON NSW 2705
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: (02) 6953 3823
Email: gkruger@rga.org.au

Strawberries Australia Inc.
Contact Person: Angela Atkinson
    Industry Development Officer Biosecurity
Street Address: N/A
Postal Address: PO Box 145, WANDIN NORTH VICTORIA 3139
Facsimile: N/A
Email: ido@vicstrawberry.com.au

Contact Person: Rachel Mackenzie
    Executive Director
Street Address: N/A
Postal Address: Level 8, 183 North Quay, BRISBANE QLD 4002
Facsimile: N/A
Email: rachelmackenzie@berries.net.au
Summerfruit Australia Ltd.

Contact Person: Chief Executive Officer
Street Address: 27 Ludgate Hill Road, ALDGATE SA 5154
Postal Address: As above
Facsimile: N/A
Email: ceo@summerfruit.com.au

Contact Person: Mr Andrew Finlay
Chair
Street Address: 15 High Street, WODONGA VIC 3690
Postal Address: Pikes Creek Homestead MS 312, STANTHORPE QLD 4380
Facsimile: N/A
Email: pikescreek@bigpond.com
Schedule 3 - Categories of Emergency Plant Pests

(Clause 7)

1 Categorisation of EPPs

1.1 Approach to categorisation

1.1.1 Where geographically a Crop is predominantly regionally based (i.e. the distribution of that Crop is limited to some regions of Australia), categorisation of an EPP affecting such a Crop should be undertaken as if that Crop has a broad national geographic distribution.

1.1.2 Categorisation of an EPP for a predominantly regionally based Crop should take into account, in the assessment of impacts of that EPP, significant regional impacts and give these due weighting in assessing national impact.

1.1.3 EPPs will be classified in the following manner:

Category 1

These are EPPs which if not eradicated would:

• cause major environmental damage to natural ecosystems; and/or
• potentially affect human health or cause a major nuisance to humans; and/or
• cause significant damage to amenity flora; and
• have relatively little impact on commercial crops.

This category also covers situations where the EPP has a wide range of hosts including native flora and there is considerable uncertainty as to the relative impacts on Crops. In short, it is almost impossible to properly determine which cropping sectors benefit from eradication and to what extent, and in any case the incursion primarily affects native flora and/or amenity plants, and/or is a major nuisance if not a health risk to humans.

The eradication of Category 1 EPPs would have very high public benefits.

Category 2

These are EPPs which if not eradicated would:

• cause significant public losses either directly through serious loss of amenity, and/or environmental values and/or effects on households, or indirectly through very severe economic impacts on regions and the national economy, through large trade losses with flow on effects through the economy; and
• impose major costs on the affected cropping sectors such that the cropping sectors would benefit significantly from eradication.

The eradication of Category 2 EPPs would have high public benefits.
Category 3

These are EPPs which if not eradicated would primarily harm the affected cropping sectors but there would also be some significant public costs as well (that is, moderate public benefits from eradication). The EPP could adversely affect public amenities, households or the environment, and/or could have significant, though moderate trade implications and/or national and regional economic implications.

The eradication of Category 3 EPPs would have moderate public benefits.

Category 4

These are EPPs which if not eradicated would:

- have little or no public cost implications and little or no impacts on natural ecosystems. The affected cropping sectors would be adversely affected primarily through additional costs of production, extra control costs or nuisance costs; and

- generally there would be no significant trade issues that would affect national and regional economies.

The eradication of Category 4 EPPs would have mainly if not wholly private benefits.

2 Process for categorisation, re-categorisation or removal of an EPP and for review of Funding Weights

2.1 Process

2.1.1 A concerned Party lodges a substantiated request with Plant Health Australia.

2.1.2 If Plant Health Australia agrees that the evidence presented supports categorisation, re-categorisation or removal, or review of the Funding Weight, of a Plant Pest, it must within 30 days of receipt refer the request to the Categorisation Group.

2.1.3 If Plant Health Australia advises the concerned Party that it will not, or does not within 30 days of receipt, refer a request for categorisation, re-categorisation or removal, or review of the Funding Weight, of a Plant Pest to the Categorisation Group, a Party may appeal that decision to Members at a General Meeting of Plant Health Australia.

2.1.4 Plant Health Australia must convene a Categorisation Group which must meet promptly after receipt of a request from Plant Health Australia and must consider and report on any matter referred to it.

2.1.5 The Categorisation Group must report its findings in respect of category and Funding Weight to Plant Health Australia within 30 days of receipt of the request from Plant Health Australia.
2.1.6 Plant Health Australia must refer the report of the Categorisation Group to the Relevant Parties.

2.1.7 The Relevant Parties must then determine if there is Unanimous agreement between the Relevant Parties in respect of the report of the Categorisation Group by:

(a) voting at a Meeting;

(b) voting at a Meeting following pre-lodgement of votes by the Representative(s) of one or more of the Relevant Parties;

(c) voting at a Meeting subject to subsequent written ratification by the Representative(s) of one or more of the Relevant Parties who are not present at the Meeting;

(d) voting by circulated resolution; or

(e) any other method agreed to by all of the Relevant Parties.

2.1.7A If the Relevant Parties reach a Unanimous agreement in respect of the report of the Categorisation Group by one of the means listed in paragraph 2.1.7, the Relevant Parties must advise Plant Health Australia of the agreement. Where that requires a variation to the Deed, Plant Health Australia must take steps to vary the Deed in accordance with the requirements of the Deed.

2.1.8 If the Relevant Parties do not reach a Unanimous agreement in respect of the report of the Categorisation Group, the Board of Plant Health Australia must consider the advice of the Categorisation Group and the response from the Relevant Parties at its first Meeting following the receipt, and make a determination as to the appropriate course of action.

2.1.9 Plant Health Australia must advise the Parties of the Board's determination within 30 days.

2.1.10 The determination is final and a further submission in respect of the category or Funding Weight of the Plant Pest will not be accepted by Plant Health Australia unless further substantive information becomes available.

2.2 Form of request for categorisation (and determination of Funding Weight), re-categorisation or removal

Application for Plant Pest categorisation (including determination of Funding Weight), re-categorisation or removal of categorisation under clauses 7.2 or 7.3 of the Deed for Government and Plant Industry Cost-Sharing of Emergency Plant Pest Responses

Chief Executive Officer
Plant Health Australia
Level 1, 1 Phipps Close
DEAKIN ACT 2600

[Name and address of Party to Deed] seeks:

categorisation and determination of Funding Weight of [name of Plant Pest] which is not presently included in Schedule 13 of the Deed;
re-categorisation of [name of EPP], which under Schedule 13 of the Deed, is categorised as a [Category xx] EPP; or

the removal from the Deed of [name of Plant Pest], which under Schedule 13 of the Deed, is categorised as a [Category xx] EPP.

The basis for the request for categorisation/re-categorisation/removal is described below (or see Attachment).

It is noted that the procedure for consideration of a request for Plant Pest or EPP categorisation/re-categorisation/removal is as described in Part 2 of Schedule 3 of the Deed.

[INSERT TEXT OF BASIS OF REQUEST]

Yours sincerely

Signature of Party or Official Representative

2.3 Form of request for review of Funding Weight

Application for review of the Funding Weight under clause 7.3.1 of the Deed for Government and Plant Industry Cost-Sharing of Emergency Plant Pest Responses

Chief Executive Officer
Plant Health Australia
Level 1, 1 Phipps Close
DEAKIN ACT 2600

[Name and address of Party to Deed] seeks:

review of the Funding Weight of [name of EPP];

The basis for the request for review is described below.

It is noted that the procedure for review of a Funding Weight is as described in Part 2 of Schedule 3 of the Deed.

[INSERT TEXT OF BASIS OF REQUEST]

Yours sincerely

Signature of Industry Party or Official Representative

3 Guide to parties seeking categorisation/re-categorisation/removal

3.1.1 The request needs to address the implications of the Plant Pest for:

(a) public health;
(b) domestic and international markets;
(c) national and regional economies;
(d) plant production;
(e) the environment; and
(f) damage to amenity flora.
3.1.2 The arguments presented should contain qualitative information and quantitative information (where this exists or can be reasonably generated).

3.1.3 In order for a categorisation/re-categorisation/removal request to be accepted by Plant Health Australia for consideration, applicants must demonstrate a reasonable basis for undertaking that categorisation/re-categorisation/removal having regard to:

(a) the nature of the Plant Pest, such as issues of:

   (i) epidemiology/ecology – factors influencing the establishment and spread of the Plant Pest, such as life cycle, persistence of the organism, modes of transmission;

   (ii) aetiology – ie information on the causal organism, such as its virulence;

   (iii) susceptibility of plant varieties or plant species;

   (iv) world distribution;

   (v) resistance and immunity; and

   (vi) manner and risk of introduction.

(b) the impact of the Plant Pest on:

   (i) public health;

   (ii) domestic and international markets for plants, plant products and other goods and services such as tourism;

   (iii) national and regional economy(s);

   (iv) plant production;

   (v) the environment; and

   (vi) amenity flora.

4 Guide to parties seeking review of Funding Weights

4.1.1 The request must address the relative impact of the EPP on the Affected Industry Parties.

4.1.2 The arguments presented should contain both qualitative and quantitative information (where it exists or can be reasonably generated).

4.1.3 Plant Health Australia will accept by for consideration a Review of Funding Weight request in which applicants demonstrate a reasonable basis for undertaking that review having regard to:

(a) the nature of the EPP, such as issues of:

   (i) epidemiology/ecology – factors influencing the establishment and spread of the Plant Pest, such as life cycle, persistence of the organism, modes of transmission;

   (ii) aetiology – ie information on the causal organism, such as its virulence;

   (iii) susceptibility of plant varieties or plant species;
(iv) world distribution; and
(v) resistance and immunity.

(b) the relative impact of the EPP on the Affected Industry Party(s), such as issues of:

(i) plant production costs;
(ii) yield;
(iii) availability of cropping alternatives;
(iv) trade and market impacts.
1 Structure and content of an Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan (“Response Plan”)

1.1 A Response Plan submitted for initial approval by the NMG must address all of the following matters:

(a) status report on the suspected EPP;
(b) technical feasibility of eradication of the suspected EPP;
(c) at least preliminary results of a benefit:cost analysis of eradication of the suspected EPP;
(d) detail of the activities to be undertaken as part of the response, including identifying who will undertake each action;
(e) recommended approaches for determining proof of freedom;
(f) indicative budget for each proposed Response Plan activity;
(g) public relations;
(h) trigger points to review the Response Plan which may include:
   (i) the occurrence of a new outbreak of the suspected EPP in a different location,
   (ii) the point when an agreed limit of funding has been expended, and
   (iii) other indicators of the effectiveness of the Response Plan activities to date.

1.2 The amount of detail of a Response Plan submitted for initial or subsequent approval will depend on the nature and extent of the Incident and stage of the response. Other components may be developed, and their approval sought, in accordance with a timetable agreed by the CCEPP.

2 Key roles under the National EPP Training Program

Chief Plant Health Manager
SCC Director
LCC Controller
LCC managerial roles - Planning, Operations and Logistics
                      - Industry Liaison
SCC managerial roles - Planning, Operations and Logistics
                      - Industry Liaison
                      - Communications
Schedule 5 - PLANTPLAN Documentation

(Clause 6.2)

1 PLANTPLAN

PLANTPLAN, as endorsed by Plant Health Australia members, is available on the Plant Health Australia web site. As changes are made to this document, endorsement will be obtained from Plant Health Australia members prior to replacing the outdated version on the web site.

If members wish, they may request to have an electronic copy sent via e-mail.

2 Related Species specific Contingency Plans

Species specific Contingency Plans are available from Plant Health Australia for certain of the EPPs listed at Schedule 13.
Schedule 6 - Cost Sharing

(Clauses 9)

1 Government Funding

1.1 Determination of proportional split between the government Parties

1.1.1 The following formulae will be used to determine the share of each State and Territory of the total government Party funding.

1.1.2 The Commonwealth share is 50% of the total government Party share in each case.

Formulae explanation

1.1.3 A mean of three years is used, and updated at 1 July each year, using ABS source data (including preliminary data for most recent year if available); or if ABS data is not available, using source data provided by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics, failing which an estimate agreed by the Relevant Parties. The ‘Category 1’ formula will use figures from the latest human population census.

1.1.4 Production and LVP data are converted to percentage terms to allow addition. The share of an individual State/Territory determined in the last column is divided by two to incorporate the Commonwealth's 50% share.

1.2 Category 1 formula

1.2.1 State/Territory proportions based on latest human population census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[a]</th>
<th>[b]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human population % of national total</td>
<td>Share of total State/Territory Government funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>= [a] divided by 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.3 STPS formula

A State/Territory Party's proportional share of Local Value of Production of affected Crops in Australia is calculated as follows:

\[
\frac{\text{LVP (State/Territory Party)}}{\text{LVP (All State/Territory Parties)}}
\]

Where:

**LVP (State/Territory Party)** is the LVP for the affected Crop, Crops or sub-groups of Crops (including forestry production for logs) produced in the State or Territory of that State/Territory Party as at the applicable 1 July;

**LVP (All State/Territory Parties)** is the total LVP for the affected Crop, Crops or sub-groups of Crops (including forestry production for logs) produced in the
States and Territories that have representation by a State/Territory Party as at the applicable 1 July.

1.4 Plant pest formula for proportional shares between State/Territory Parties

1.4.1 State/Territory shares based on LVP — Mean of three years

2 Application of the formulae to determine Industry Party shares

2.1 Industry Party Funding

2.1.1 The split of costs eligible for Cost Sharing between the Industry Parties where an EPP affects more than one Crop or concerns more than one Industry Party will be determined as follows:

2.2 Cost Sharing for EPP Responses where more than one Industry Party is Affected

2.2.1 Where an EPP affects more than one Industry Party, the contributions from the Affected Industry Parties will, subject to clause 9.5.2, be determined having regard to the LVP of the Crop(s) represented by each Industry Party subject to a weighting to reflect the importance of the EPP for that Crop, or Crops, and Industry Party (“Weighted Proportional Contribution”). The Weighted Proportional Contribution will be determined in accordance with the following formula:

\[
\text{The individual Industry shares (as %) } = \frac{LVP_i \times W_i}{\sum LVP_i \times W_i}
\]

where:

- \( LVP_i = \) LVP of the Industry
- \( W_i = \) the Funding Weights for each Industry Party set out in the table below; and

\( \sum LVP_i \times W_i \) = the sum of (the LVP x the applicable weighting) for each of the Affected Industry Parties
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>EPP Common Name</th>
<th>EPP Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>47.6</td>
<td>Summer fruit tortrix</td>
<td>Adoxophyes orana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Navel orangeworm</td>
<td>Amylosa transella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Tomato/potato psyllid</td>
<td>Bactericera cockerelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Oriental fruit fly</td>
<td>Bactrocer a dorsalis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Papaya fruit fly</td>
<td>Bactrocer a papayae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Philippine fruit fly</td>
<td>Bactrocer a philippinensis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>Candidatus Liberibacter psyllaurous</td>
<td>Candidatus Liberibacter psyllaurous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>Chestnut blight</td>
<td>Cryptophlebia parasitica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>False codling moth</td>
<td>Cryptophlebia leevitta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>Summer fruit tortrix</td>
<td>Adoxophyes orana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Navel orangeworm</td>
<td>Amylosa transella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Tomato/potato psyllid</td>
<td>Bactericera cockerelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Oriental fruit fly</td>
<td>Bactrocer a dorsalis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Papaya fruit fly</td>
<td>Bactrocer a papayae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>Philippine fruit fly</td>
<td>Bactrocer a philippinensis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>Candidatus Liberibacter psyllaurous</td>
<td>Candidatus Liberibacter psyllaurous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>Chestnut blight</td>
<td>Cryptophlebia parasitica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>False codling moth</td>
<td>Cryptophlebia leevitta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPP Common Name</td>
<td>EPP Scientific Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fireblight</td>
<td>Erwinia amylovora</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama disease (Tropical race 4)</td>
<td>Fusarium oxysporum f.sp. cubense</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown marmorated stink bug</td>
<td>Halyomorpha halys</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huanglongbing/Citrus Greening</td>
<td>Liberibacter asiaticus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable leafminer</td>
<td>Liriomyza sativae</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western plant bug</td>
<td>Lygus hesperus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armyworm</td>
<td>Mythimna unipuncta</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European canker</td>
<td>Nepovirus Cherry leaf roller virus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPP Common Name</td>
<td>EPP Scientific Name</td>
<td>Variegated cutworm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almond Board of Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Almond Board of Australia Inc.</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.2.2 The resultant Weighted Proportional Contributions will be determined, when required due to an Incident or on the written request of a Party by Plant Health Australia, using LVP 3-year moving averages, and circulated to the Parties.

2.2.3 An Industry Party may appeal its Weighted Proportional Contribution by lodging a request for review within 28 days of their publication by Plant Health Australia. If a request for review is not lodged within that time, the Weighted Proportional Contributions are binding on the Industry Parties. A request for review must be referred by Plant Health Australia to a General Meeting of the Members of Plant Health Australia. Where the Weighted Proportional Contributions are varied by the General Meeting of Members, the variations take effect from the date on which the request for consideration by Members was notified to Plant Health Australia.

2.2.4 Where the Funding Weights for each Industry Party are not agreed within 5 days of the commencement of a Response Plan, the costs for the EPP Response are to be shared equally by the Affected Industry Parties until the Funding Weights are determined by Plant Health Australia in consultation with the Affected Industry Parties. If agreement cannot be reached within 15 days of the commencement of the Response Plan the Funding Weights must be determined by Plant Health Australia. An Affected Industry Party may appeal the relative Funding Weights to a General Meeting of the Members of Plant Health Australia. Where the Funding Weights and thus proportional shares are varied by the General Meeting of Members, Weighted Proportional Contributions will be varied from the date on which the request for consideration by Members was notified to Plant Health Australia.

2.3 Cost Sharing where more than one Industry Party represents a Crop

2.3.1 Where more than one Industry Party represents a Crop, where a Response Plan has been approved, the manner of Cost Sharing between those Industry Parties will be determined amongst them. Where they have not advised Plant Health Australia of their manner of apportionment for Cost Sharing, they will be equally responsible for meeting costs for which their Crop is liable under this Deed.

3 Determination of proportional shares

3.1 Determination of proportional dollar shares of an aggregate Agreed Limit where there is more than one Industry Party Affected by an EPP

In order to determine the amount each Affected government Party and Industry Party may be required to contribute to Cost Sharing if the Agreed Limit is reached in circumstances where there is more than one Industry Party Affected by an EPP ("Proportional Share"), the calculations set out below may be followed.

3.1.1 Determine the LVP for each of the Crops represented by the Relevant Industry Parties.

3.1.2 Calculate the aggregate LVP for the Relevant Industry Parties.

3.1.3 Calculate the percentage set out in clause 9.5.3 (or such other percentage agreed in writing by the Affected Parties) of the aggregate LVP.
3.1.4 Determine the dollar shares of the government Parties (in total) and Industry Party(s), using the percentages applying to each Category of Plant Pest as described in clause 9.2.1.

3.1.5 Determine the dollar shares of:

(a) each of the government Parties, using the percentages obtained from the relevant formula described in Part 1 of Schedule 6; and

(b) each of the Industry Parties (in the case of an EPP affecting more than one Crop, or in the case where more than one Industry Party represents a Crop), using the percentages described in Part 2 of Schedule 6.

3.2 Changes in LVP

3.2.1 The cost sharing arrangements in place at the adoption of a Response Plan will, unless agreed in writing by all Affected Parties, remain for the period of the Response Plan, notwithstanding any changes in the LVP in the course of the Response Plan.

3.3 Sub groupings of Crops represented by an Industry Party

3.3.1 For the purposes of determination of Agreed Limits and Proportional Shares under clause 9.5, the following sub groupings apply:

**Party:** Australian Vegetable and Potato Growers Inc

Sub groupings:  
1. Potatoes (includes all forms of potatoes)
2. Vegetables (includes all vegetable Crops represented by AUSVEG other than those covered by sub grouping 1)

**Party:** Grain Producers Australia Ltd

Sub groupings:  
1. Wheat
2. Barley
3. Canola
4. Pulses
5. Other coarse grains
6. Other oilseeds

**Party:** Apple and Pear Australia Ltd

Sub groupings:  
1. Apples
2. Pears

3.3.2 Where more than one Industry is Affected by an EPP and one or more of those Industries represent multiple Crops, the Proportional Shares must be determined using the LVP of the Affected Crops.
4 Determination of costs

4.1 Salaries and Wages

4.1.1 Salary or consultancy fees of staff/consultants who are, or would be, engaged by a government Party or Industry Party, irrespective of the implementation of the Response Plan, are not eligible for Cost Sharing.

4.1.2 Salaries or consultancy fees for staff/contractors engaged by the Party to assist directly with eradication and for staff/contractors engaged to backfill positions of existing permanent staff who are assisting directly with eradication will be eligible for Cost Sharing, subject to the guidelines detailed in PLANTPLAN and the formal approval of the National Management Group.

4.1.3 Salaries or wages of staff seconded across State or Territory borders will not be eligible for Cost Sharing but salaries or wages of staff/contractors engaged to backfill positions of seconded staff will be eligible for Cost Sharing subject to the guidelines detailed in PLANTPLAN and the formal approval of the National Management Group.

4.1.4 Allowances for staff/consultants engaged in the implementation of a Response Plan will be eligible for Cost Sharing. These will include meal allowances, district allowances, penalty rates and accommodation assistance.

4.1.5 Payroll tax, workers' compensation, superannuation and leave for staff especially recruited as a result of the implementation of a Response Plan will be eligible for Cost Sharing.

4.1.6 Overtime incurred directly as a result of the implementation of a Response Plan will be eligible for Cost Sharing.

4.1.7 Fees and allowances of contractors engaged by the government Parties to implement a Response Plan will be eligible for Cost Sharing up to the level of a fees and allowances structure approved by Plant Health Australia, or such other relevant fee structure.

4.2 Operating Expenses

Operating expenses directly incurred by a Party undertaking activities required by a Response Plan will be eligible for Cost Sharing subject to the following conditions:

4.2.1 For activities provided internally by a State/Territory Government agency, the cost of additional staff and operating costs incurred as a result of undertaking activities required by the Response Plan will constitute Shared Costs.

4.2.2 For laboratory services provided to a State/Territory Government by an external source to assist in the implementation of a Response Plan, the costs which may become Shared Costs will be:

   (a) when the specified contracted level of service is exceeded, an amount equivalent to the marginal cost incurred in 4.2.1 by a comparable government laboratory for that additional service; and

   (b) where there is no specified contracted service level, an amount not exceeding the full price that would be charged by a comparable government laboratory for those services.
4.2.3 Stores and equipment purchased for the implementation of a Response Plan for which the cost is eligible for Cost Sharing will be valued:

(a) on the Response Plan Completion Date and will be sold within 60 days of the Response Plan Completion Date, or

(b) if disposed of prior to the Response Plan Completion Date, at the time of disposal.

4.2.4 The proceeds of any sale, or equivalent valuation, will be distributed to the Parties in the same proportions as their Cost Sharing obligations.

4.2.5 Any variation from this procedure can only be made with the approval of the Parties.

4.2.6 Costs payable to volunteer emergency services and defence personnel may be eligible for Cost Sharing but are limited to operational, out-of-pocket or incidental expenses and do not include personal expenses.

4.3 Capital Costs

4.3.1 Capital expenditure on major items such as motor vehicles or buildings will not be eligible for Cost Sharing. The working life of such capital items would normally be expected to extend far beyond any eradication effort funded under the Response Plan and there is every possibility they could be utilised in other ongoing programs.

4.3.2 Essential equipment required for the immediate servicing needs of a Response Plan will be eligible for Cost Sharing.

4.3.3 Any equipment purchased with funds which have subsequently been subjected to Cost Sharing will be dealt with as in Operating Expenses paragraph 4.2.3 above.

4.4 Owner Reimbursement Costs

4.4.1 This Part 4.4 of Schedule 6 sets out which payments by a government Party to an Owner (Owner Reimbursement Costs) may be eligible for Cost Sharing pursuant to the Deed. Owner Reimbursement Costs may relate to:

(a) direct eradication costs incurred by the Owner that are additional to ordinary operating costs;

(b) the value of Crops destroyed; and

(c) costs and losses resulting from an order being given that a property lie fallow for a period specified in paragraphs 4.4.11, 4.4.12, 4.4.13 and 4.4.14 (Fallow Period)

where that is done under a Response Plan for the purpose of eradication or prevention of the spread of an EPP.

4.4.2 Owner Reimbursement Costs may be payable to an Owner in accordance with this Part 4 of Schedule 6 in respect of the period during which the Owner’s property is subject to a Response Plan.
4.4.3 Owner Reimbursement Costs are payable only to the ‘Owner’, which includes every person other than a mortgagee not in possession, having or claiming any right, title or interest in any plants or plant product or land.

Note: Payments in respect of some actions taken by an Owner under a Response Plan may be Operational Costs of the Lead Agency payable under that cost centre rather than as Owner Reimbursement Costs.

Claims, valuations and payments

4.4.4 A claim for Owner Reimbursement Costs must be made to the Lead Agency by, or on behalf of, the Owner within 90 days after:

(a) the date of destruction of the Crops or other property; and/or

(b) the date on which an Owner as part of a Response Plan receives an order for a Fallow Period.

4.4.5 The value of Owner Reimbursement Costs will be assessed in accordance with the provisions of this Part 4 of Schedule 6 by a person nominated in a Response Plan or, if no person is so nominated, by Plant Health Australia. An appeal against a valuation must be made in writing by, or on behalf of, the Owner within 30 days of receipt of notification:

(a) of the valuation of destroyed plant or plant products; or

(b) in respect of a Fallow Period, that the property is eligible to be re-sown or replanted.

4.4.6 Owner Reimbursement Costs must be paid to an Owner by the applicable State/Territory within 60 days of the completion of the valuation pursuant to paragraph 4.4.5.

Relevant date for purposes of valuation

4.4.7 The estimated Farm Gate Value of Crops for the purposes of Owner Reimbursement Costs will be determined as at:

(a) the date of destruction of the plants and/or plant products in accordance with a Response Plan (but on the basis set out in paragraph 4.4.8); or

(b) the date of destruction of the Plant Pest affecting (and which destroys the economic value of) the Crops in accordance with a Response Plan, which date may be retrospective; or

(c) the date of imposition of a Quarantine order relating to the land subject to a Response Plan requiring a Fallow Period, and

where more than one date is applicable, whichever is the earlier.

Inclusion in Owner Reimbursement Costs

4.4.8 Owner Reimbursement Costs includes:

(d) direct eradication costs incurred by the Owner that are additional to ordinary operating costs;
(e) the estimated Farm Gate Value of a Crop destroyed, or of a Crop the economic value of which is destroyed, as a consequence of the implementation of a Response Plan in accordance with this Deed (with that Farm Gate Value being determined as at the date referred to in paragraph 4.4.7(a));

(f) the loss of the estimated Farm Gate Value of Crops foregone, less the costs of production, resulting from a requirement under a Response Plan that, for a specified period, land be left fallow (with that Farm Gate Value being determined as at the date referred to in paragraph 4.4.7(a)); and

(g) costs above normal operating costs resulting from the Response Plan such as additional pest control measures, and special cleaning of machinery and equipment,

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

Exclusions from Owner Reimbursement Costs

4.4.9 No Owner Reimbursement Costs (or any such part of the Owner Reimbursement Costs otherwise payable as the CCEPP thinks reasonable) is payable under this Deed to any Owner if the Owner has been convicted of an offence under any Act or regulations which is directly related to the eradication of the EPP to which the claim for Owner Reimbursement Costs relates.

4.4.10 Owner Reimbursement Costs will not include:

(a) the difference in Farm Gate Value between the Owner’s preferred Crop and an alternative Crop or agricultural use as a result of action taken under, or a Quarantine requirement of, a Response Plan; and

(a) the actual cost of replanting a replacement Crop, except in respect of Perennial Tree/Vine/Nut Crops and Broadacre Perennial Crops.

Valuation methodology in respect of Crop destruction and post-host destruction Crop strategies

4.4.11 Annual Broad Acre Crops

Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[ \text{ORC} = (A - B) + C + D + E - F + G \]

where:

\[ A = \text{Estimated farm gate value of the Crop(s) destroyed which would otherwise have been harvested, where the timing of valuation is normal harvest time.} \]

\[ = a \times y \times p \]

where:
a = area of Crop destroyed

y = estimated yield of the Crop destroyed

= regional average yield in year t * Claimant's yield in year t–1
  regional average yield in year t–1

Where the whole district is seriously affected by the pest being eradicated and regional yields are clearly distorted, the yield (y) for the determination of Owner Reimbursement Costs paid by the applicable State/Territory will be taken as the regional average for the five years to year t–1.

Yields protected by insurance policies would be protected under this Method of Valuation (to the extent that the Owner is not able to recover under the insurance policy) and any insurance premiums are not to form part of Owner Reimbursement Costs.

p = estimated farm gate price (local silo cash price less transport costs between farm gate and silo) at the time of harvest. Specifically, the average price for the two calendar months over which the bulk of regional harvest takes place. Where no cash prices are posted, prices are to be taken as the estimated pool return for the type and quality of Crop which was destroyed. In the event that an Owner has taken out a forward contract to deliver grain at a specific price, assessment of 'p' is to be based on this contract price rather than the cash silo price. Price is to reflect the quality of product that would otherwise have been delivered. Owners would need to demonstrate quality by way of variety sown and/or recent farm history.

In the event of there being no obvious local delivery point where cash prices are posted, the average district price (based on deliveries to closest end users or port) is to be used as the basis for payment.

B = ‘Best practice’ harvesting costs plus any other costs normally associated with Crop production between the time of Crop destruction and harvest.

Such costs are to be standardised for the region based on estimates by State/Territory departments of agriculture.

C = Direct costs associated with the Response Plan incurred by the Owner but not normally incurred as a production expense.

D = Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.

E = Loss of profits from fallow land in subsequent years where land is required to be fallowed as part of the Response Plan.

Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be restricted to loss of profits for a maximum of three years. Methods of estimating loss of profits are the same as for the year in which the Crop is destroyed and include deductions for ground preparation and planting costs normally
associated with Crop production. Such costs are to be standardised, based on ‘best practice’ and estimated by State/Territory departments of agriculture. Any payment of Owner Reimbursement Costs by the applicable State or Territory is to be made after harvest in that region each year.

\[
F = \text{Profits that could be earned from the next best alternative enterprise, produced with the same resources, on the land where the Crop is destroyed and permitted by the Response Plan.}
\]

Unless the Response Plan requires the land to be fallow, deductions are to be made on the assumption that the Owner chooses the next most profitable enterprise that could be undertaken with existing capital equipment. Gross margins for these alternative enterprises are to be standardised, based on ‘best practice’ and estimated by State/Territory departments of agriculture. This applies only in the year in which the Crop is destroyed. Where a strict fallow in subsequent years is not required under the Response Plan — that is, any alternative enterprise can be undertaken except production of the Crop concerned in the Response Plan, Owner Reimbursement Costs are not to include the difference in profits for the Crop in question and any alternative enterprise.

\[
G = \text{Value of any stored grain or other produce on-farm destroyed as part of the Response Plan. The value is to be in-silo value based on local market values less transport and handling costs at the time of destruction of the stored grain.}
\]

Where a Crop has to be destroyed shortly after planting and there is a reasonable opportunity to plant an alternative Crop, the Owner may choose to be reimbursed for the costs of destroying the Affected Crop and planting the alternative Crop. Otherwise, the above formula will apply.

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

4.4.12 Annual Short Rotation Crops (Vegetables/Strawberries/Nursery Seedling Producers/Nursery Wholesale)

Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[
\text{ORC} = (A - B) + C + D + E - F + G
\]

where:

\[
A = \text{Estimated farm gate value of the Crop(s) destroyed.}
\]

\[
= a \times y \times p
\]

where:

\[
a = \text{area of Crop destroyed}
\]

\[
y = \text{yield}
\]
or a and y might refer to number of units expected to be sold, such as a number of punnets of seedlings.

The yield estimate is to take into account the type of Crop destroyed. Strawberries, for example, have a high yield in the first year, but a much lower yield in the second year.

\[ p = \text{farm gate price} \]

= either:

- the average market price for the season in the region or marketplace where normal sales take place; or

- where there are signed contracts with the price stipulated on the contract, the contract price

less any transport or selling costs.

\[ B = \text{Harvesting costs plus any other costs normally associated with Crop production between the time of Crop destruction and selling or harvesting. This is to include normal treatment or packaging and handling costs on farm for some harvested produce (for example washing or dipping of products).} \]

\[ C = \text{Direct costs associated with the Response Plan incurred by the Owner but not normally incurred as a production expense — including cleaning of equipment or glasshouses etc.} \]

\[ D = \text{Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.} \]

\[ E = \text{Loss of profits from a Response Plan requirement to fallow land or keep glasshouses empty.} \]

These ORC are only available where the Response Plan requires a fallow period that exceeds ten weeks and are to be restricted to loss of profits for a maximum of three years. Profits are to be based on standardised gross margins data from State/Territory departments of agriculture, based on ‘best practice’. However, in some cases, for example where glasshouses are involved, profit estimates may need to be based on documentation of profits from previous years.

\[ F = \text{Profits that could be earned from the next best alternative enterprise, produced with the same resources, on the land where the Crop is destroyed and permitted by the Response Plan - as determined in accordance with the definition of "F" in clause 4.4.11.} \]

\[ G = \text{Value of any stored produce on farm destroyed as a directive of the Response Plan — as for annual broadacre Crops.} \]

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

4.4.13 Perennial Trees/Vine Crops/Nut Crops/Nursery Bare Root Stock production/Large Bare Rooted Plants
Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[
\text{ORC} = (A - B) + C + D + E + F + G + H + I
\]

where:

\[A = \text{Loss of profit from the current Crop destroyed.} \]

\[= a \times y \times p\]

where

\[a = \text{area of tree Crop destroyed}\]

\[y = \text{expected yield based on Owners' past records, taking into account any biennial bearing patterns. In particular, Owners claiming above average yields (and prices) must produce auditable records of above average returns in previous years to justify additional amounts in Owner Reimbursement Costs.}\]

If the Owner has no records, the regional average for that Crop is to be used.

\[p = \text{market price at farm gate at harvest time}\]

\[B = \text{Harvesting costs based on 'best practice' as estimated by State/Territory departments of agriculture, plus any other costs (such as watering or pruning costs) normally associated with Crop production between the time of tree destruction and harvest.}\]

\[C = \text{Direct costs associated with the Response Plan incurred by the Owner but not normally incurred as a production expense.}\]

\[D = \text{Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.}\]

\[E = \text{Loss of net profits for any fallow period required by a Response Plan.}\]

\[\text{Net profit is to be standardised based on regional gross margins calculations for the Crop in question by State/Territory departments of agriculture.}\]

\[F = \text{Tree destruction costs 'depreciated' depending on the age of the orchard in relation to a standardised period of rotation for the tree Crop in question.}\]

\[\text{Depreciation is to be based on a straight line method between full cost reimbursement at the beginning of commercial production of the rotation and the end of the rotation.}\]

\[G = \text{‘Depreciated’ tree replanting costs as for tree destruction costs.}\]

\[H = \text{‘Depreciated’ loss of profit during the non-bearing period of immature trees.}\]

\[I = \text{Value of any stored produce on farm destroyed as a directive of the Response Plan including seed or nuts — as for annual broadacre}\]
Crops.

If there is an opportunity following the Response Plan for modernising or upgrading the orchard — for example, closer tree plantings, more expensive varieties, or trellis plantings, the level of Owner Reimbursement Costs is to be related strictly to replacing the asset that was there. If an Owner wants to introduce more technology or better infrastructure, for example, the Owner must cover any additional costs.

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

4.4.14 **Broad Acre Perennial Crops**

Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[ \text{ORC} = (A-H) + B + C + D + E + F + G \]

where

- **A** = Value of the Crop destroyed
  
  \[ a \times y \times p \]

  where

  - **a** = Area of Crop destroyed.
  - **y** = Yield which depends on the type of Crop destroyed — for sugar, for example, whether it is a plant Crop or ratoon Crop as yields vary from year to year. For this reason, yield y is to be based on distinct average yields for the type of Crop destroyed — for example, ratoon or plant Crop.
  - **p** = Market price of the product.
    
    \[ \text{The average regional market price over the previous 12 months valued at farm gate}. \]

- **B** = Any costs of Crop destruction ‘depreciated’ in the same way as for perennial tree Crops.

- **C** = Any other costs incurred by the Owner as a direct result of the Response Plan and not normally incurred as a production cost.

- **D** = ‘Depreciated’ Crop replanting costs as for perennial tree Crops.

- **E** = Loss of net profit from compulsory fallow, where fallow would not normally be part of the rotation cycle. Net profit to be standardised and based on regional gross margin estimates by State/Territory departments of agriculture averaged over the rotation cycle. A maximum of three years fallow is to be included.

- **F** = Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.

- **G** = Value of any stored produce on farm destroyed as a directive of the
Response Plan — as for annual broadacre Crops.

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

H = ‘Best practice’ harvesting costs plus any other costs normally associated with Crop production between the time of Crop destruction and harvest. Such costs are to be standardised for the region based on estimates by State/Territory departments of agriculture.

4.4.15 **Nursery Root Stock Production and Nursery large rooted plants**

Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[
\text{ORC} = A + B + C + D
\]

where:

**A** = Market value or estimated market value of the plants at the time of their destruction.

**B** = Direct costs associated with the Response Plan incurred by the Owner but not normally incurred as a production expense. This includes tree destruction costs.

**C** = Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.

**D** = Any stocks on hand which are destroyed due to the Response Plan.

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

4.4.16 **Nurseries, Retail**

No Owner Reimbursement Costs will be paid under this category.

4.4.17 **Bees, hives, honey and associated products**

Bees and their hives are defined as included under Crops. However for the avoidance of doubt, costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs to the owners of bees and their hives are to be calculated as follows:

\[
\text{ORC} = A + B + C + D + E + F + G
\]

where:

**A** = Value of the particular hive destroyed.

**B** = Value of the queen bee destroyed.

**C** = Value for the bee colony component.

**D** = Replacement value for any other capital items destroyed.

**E** = Any other costs incurred by the beekeeper as a direct result of the Response Plan and not normally incurred.
F = Value of any honey stocks destroyed.

G = the loss of the estimated Farm Gate Value of products foregone, less beehive operating costs, resulting from a requirement under a Response Plan that for a specified period bees be quarantined in, or excluded from, a specified area, if applicable.

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

4.4.18 The calculation of the value of the Crops or property must be undertaken upon the basis of a sale at the place at which the Crops were, or property was, when it was destroyed.

4.4.19 Plant Health Australia must consult with the Relevant Parties in varying the guidelines referred to at Part 4.4.8, and Parts 4.4.11 to 4.4.17 inclusive. The issue of guidelines must be approved by the Board of Plant Health Australia. Any Party which seeks to amend an issued guideline may have the matter determined by Members at a General Meeting of Plant Health Australia.

4.5 Certification of claims

4.5.1 All claims for Cost Sharing of costs under the Agreement must be certified by the Senior Accounting Officer and Chief Plant Protection Officer of the State, Territory or Commonwealth organisation involved or the senior accounting officer of an Industry body.

4.6 False statements

4.6.1 Any person who is:

(a) suspected of having acted with intent to mislead or defraud any of the Parties for the purpose of obtaining Owner Reimbursement Costs for himself/herself/itself or any other person under this Deed,

(b) suspected of having knowingly made a statement which is in any respect false or misleading; or

(c) suspected of fraudulent practices or of being concerned in any fraudulent act

must be reported by any Party which becomes aware of that information to the relevant authorities for appropriate action.
Schedule 7 - Funding of Cost Sharing Obligations

(Clauses 10)

1 Payment of Industry Party shares of Cost Sharing

1.1.1 In this Part of this Schedule 'Industry' means an Industry the Cost Sharing obligations of which have been met by the Commonwealth under clause 10.4.2.

1.2 Industry obligations - repayment of Commonwealth

1.2.1 The Industry Party must ensure that the Industry repays the Commonwealth within a reasonable period (generally expected to be no longer than 10 years), having regard to the amount paid by the Commonwealth on behalf of the Industry. Repayment must be on the basis of preserving the net present value of the amount paid by the Commonwealth. In that regard, interest on each amount outstanding will accrue from the date on which it was paid by the Commonwealth and is payable at a rate equivalent to the annual inflation rate in respect of each year (or part) during which the amount remains outstanding.

1.2.2 Repayment by an Industry Party may be through statutory levy arrangements or voluntary means. The obligations on Industry Parties which decide on repayment by statutory levy arrangements are outlined in Parts 1.3.1 and 1.4.1(a) and (b) of this Schedule.

1.2.3 In the case of an Industry Party deciding to nominate a voluntary means of repayment, the Industry Party must provide written advice to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth, outlining the proposed voluntary repayment means. Such written advice must be provided to, and agreed to, in advance of the Commonwealth agreeing to underwrite the Industry contribution on such a basis. The Commonwealth reserves the right to refuse to agree to accept a voluntary means of repayment until it is satisfied that the Industry Party has arrangements in place that will ensure the voluntary means will enable the Industry Party to meet its repayment obligations. The Commonwealth reserves the right to seek such supporting evidence and/or written guarantees of an Industry Party as it considers necessary to satisfy itself as to the suitability of a voluntary means of payment.

1.2.4 Regardless of the agreed method of repayment, in the event an Industry is unable to meet the agreed repayment schedule the Commonwealth may, at any time, by written notice to the Industry Party, notify the Industry Party of the amount outstanding. On receipt of such a notice the Industry Party is required to enter into negotiations with the Commonwealth, by such date as is specified in the notice, to establish a new repayment schedule. A new repayment schedule may include, if deemed necessary, a new repayment methodology. Should a new repayment schedule not be agreed within two months of the commencement of negotiations, the Commonwealth reserves the right to initiate arrangements to recover the amount outstanding, together with interest, through statutory levy arrangements.
## 1.3 Industry obligations - levy arrangements

### 1.3.1 Each of the Parties listed in the following table intends to fund its obligations in the manner indicated in the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Emergency Plant Pest (EPP) Response Levy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Levy initially set at zero rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almond Board of Australia Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple and Pear Australia Ltd.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Banana Growers’ Council Inc.</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Cane Growers’ Council Ltd.</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Forest Products Association Ltd.</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Ginger Industry Association Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Grape and Wine Inc.</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Lychee Growers Association Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Macadamia Society Ltd.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Mango Industry Association Ltd.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Melon Association Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Olive Association Ltd.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Processing Tomato Research Council Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Sweetpotato Growers Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Party</td>
<td>Emergency Plant Pest (EPP) Response Levy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Levy initially set at zero rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Table Grape Association Inc.</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Tea Tree Industry Association Ltd.</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Truffle Growers Association Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSVEG Ltd.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avocados Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned Fruit Industry Council of Australia Ltd.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherry Growers of Australia Inc.</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chestnuts Australia Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dried Fruits Australia Inc.</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain Producers Australia Ltd.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenlife Industry Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onions Australia Inc.</td>
<td>☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passionfruit Australia Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Party</td>
<td>Emergency Plant Pest (EPP) Response Levy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Levy initially set at zero rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pistachio Growers Association Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers Ltd. (Growcom)</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raspberries and Blackberries Australia Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ricegrowers’ Association of Australia Inc.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberries Australia Inc.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summerfruit Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.3.2 A Party may elect to adopt a funding mechanism different from that indicated in the table should it wish to do so following consultation with levy payers.

1.3.3 A Party will use its best endeavours to ensure that, within 6 months after it executes this Deed, it has concluded the process required under the Commonwealth Government's Levy Principles and Guidelines relating to the new Emergency Plant Pest (EPP) Response Levy or utilisation of the Plant Health Australia levy to include an Emergency Plant Pest (EPP) component. Should an Incident affecting the Party occur before that process has been concluded, the Party will use its best endeavours to accelerate conclusion of that process.

1.3.4 Following the conclusion of that process, the Commonwealth will take the necessary steps to introduce the legislation or subordinate legislation to give effect to the levy or other arrangements.

1.4 **Industry obligations - Response Plan**

1.4.1 If a Response plan is implemented:

(a) an Affected Industry Party in respect of the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops of which the levy was initially set at zero rate, must take steps in accordance with the Commonwealth Government's Levy Principles and Guidelines to ensure that the rate of levy is increased to such operative rate as will enable the Party to meet its repayment obligations to the Commonwealth as set out in section (1) above;

(a) an Affected Industry Party in respect of the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops of which the levy was set at an operative rate, must:
(i) review the amount held in reserve as a result of the levy receipts; and

(ii) if that amount, together with other amounts reasonably expected to be received as a result of future levy receipts, is reasonably considered to be insufficient to enable the Party to meet its repayment obligations to the Commonwealth as set out in section (1) above, the Party must take steps, in accordance with the Commonwealth Government’s Levy Principles and Guidelines, to ensure that the rate of levy is increased to such rate as will enable the Party to meet those obligations; and

(b) an Affected Industry Party in respect of the Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops of which a voluntary means of repayment was agreed with the Commonwealth, must review those arrangements to ensure that the Party can meet its obligations to the Commonwealth as set out in section (1). If those arrangements are deemed to be insufficient to meet its obligations, the Industry Party must ensure alternative arrangements are established to meet those obligations.

2 Mechanism for determination of the costs of a Response Plan

2.1.1 The Lead Agency(s) must keep financial details of the Response Plan in accordance with clause 12.1.1. The Lead Agency(s) must arrange for external audit of their financial statements relating to the Response Plan in accordance with clause 12.4.

2.1.2 The Lead Agency(s) and each Affected Party that has incurred costs which qualify for Cost Sharing should submit to Plant Health Australia, as soon as possible after the end of each three month period, a claim in the format provided by Plant Health Australia to the relevant financial officer of the Affected Party. Plant Health Australia may seek such information as it considers necessary to enable verification of claims.

2.1.3 Plant Health Australia will coordinate and collate claims for Cost Sharing in accordance with clause 12.1.4 and will maintain records of funds paid by or to Parties in accordance with clause 12.1.5.

2.1.4 Plant Health Australia will sum the claims, together with any costs it has incurred in accordance with clause 9.7, to determine the aggregate amount for Cost Sharing.

2.1.5 Using the cost-share proportions determined in accordance with Parts 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 6, Plant Health Australia will determine the gross amounts payable by each of the Affected Parties.

2.1.6 The amounts (if any) claimed for Cost Sharing are then deducted from the respective gross amounts to determine a net amount payable. Note: For the Lead Agency(s) this net amount can be expected to be negative.

2.1.7 Plant Health Australia will then advise the Affected Parties of the amount payable or amount receivable (if the net amount in the previous paragraph is negative) on a no more than 3 monthly basis (unless otherwise agreed by NMG). If there is more than one Affected Party with
an amount receivable, Plant Health Australia will advise the amount payable to them by each of the remaining Affected Parties. In the case of Industry Affected Parties that have an agreed arrangement with the Commonwealth for meeting their obligations pursuant to clause 9.2 retrospectively, the amount payable by those Affected Parties will be added to the share of the amount payable by DAFF.

2.1.8 The Affected Party(s) with an amount receivable will invoice the other Affected Parties, with payment terms 30 days from the date of invoice.

2.1.9 Where a Response lasts in excess of 6 months, Plant Health Australia must put in place processes (and other Parties must assist it to undertake those processes) to enable interim invoicing and payment of Shared Costs.

3 Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops Represented by Plant Health Australia Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representing Party</th>
<th>Crop Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Almond Board of Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Almonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple and Pear Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>Apples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pears (excluding Nashi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Banana Growers’ Council Inc.</td>
<td>Bananas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Cane Growers’ Council Ltd.</td>
<td>Sugar Cane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sugar Cane (cut for plants)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Forest Products Association Ltd.</td>
<td>Exotic plantation softwoods (eg. <em>Pinus spp.</em> )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Native plantation softwoods (eg. <em>Araucaria spp.</em> )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Native plantation hardwoods (eg. <em>Eucalyptus spp.</em> )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Ginger Industry Association Inc.</td>
<td>Ginger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Grape and Wine Inc.</td>
<td>Wine grapes (species of the <em>Vitis</em> genus)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc.</td>
<td>Beeswax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Lychee Growers Association Inc.</td>
<td>Lychee (<em>Litchi chinensis</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Macadamia Society Ltd.</td>
<td>Macadamias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Mango Industry Association Ltd.</td>
<td>Mangoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Melon Association Inc.</td>
<td>Charentais melon (<em>Cucumis melo var. cantalupensis</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Galia melon (<em>C. melo var. reticulatus</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hami melon (<em>C. melo var. reticulatus</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honeydew melons (<em>C. melo var. inodorus</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Horned melon (<em>C. metuliferus</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Korean melon (<em>C. melo var. makuwa</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Piel de sapo (<em>C. melo var. inodorus</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rockmelons (<em>C. melo</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representing Party</td>
<td>Crop Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Olive Association Ltd.</td>
<td>Watermelons (<em>Citrullus lanatus</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Processing Tomato Research Council Inc.</td>
<td>Olives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Sweetpotato Growers Inc.</td>
<td>Tomatoes – Canning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Table Grape Association</td>
<td>Sweetpotato (<em>Ipomoea batatas</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Tea Tree Industry Association Ltd.</td>
<td><em>Melaleuca alternifolia</em> (Maiden &amp; Betch) Cheel which is used to produce the essential oil of Melaleuca, terpinen-4-ol type (Tea Tree oil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Truffle Growers Association Inc.</td>
<td>Truffles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc.</td>
<td>Walnuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSVEG Ltd.</td>
<td>Beans - French and Runner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beans - French and Runner (for processing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beetroot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Broccoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brussels sprouts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cabbage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cabbage (for seed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capsicums, Chillies and Peppers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carrot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carrot (for seed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cauliflower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cauliflower (for seed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Celery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chinese Cabbage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cucumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eggplant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lettuce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marrows and Squashes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parsley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parsnips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peas - Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peas - Green (for processing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peas - Green (for seed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peas - Snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Potatoes (fresh and processing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Potatoes (for seed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pumpkins, Triambles and Trombones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Swede</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representing Party</td>
<td>Crop Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avocados Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>Avocados</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned Fruit Industry Council of Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>Apricots – Canning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peaches - Canning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pears – Canning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plums - Canning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherry Growers of Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Cherries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chestnuts Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Chestnuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>Citrus (other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grapefruits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lemons and Limes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mandarins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oranges (Navels)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oranges (other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oranges (Valencia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>Cotton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dried Fruits Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Grapes - Dried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grains Producers Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>Barley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Canary Seed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Canola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cereal Rye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chick Peas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cow Peas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Faba Beans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Field Peas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grains (oilseed) - Linseed, Flax, Linola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legumes (grain)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lentils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lupins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Millet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mung Beans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Navy beans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peanuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pigeon Peas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Safflower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Soybeans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representing Party</td>
<td>Crop Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenlife Industry Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>Nursery crops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Hazelnuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onions Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Onions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passionfruit Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Passionfruit (all fruit from the species <em>Passiflora edulis</em> and related sub species, including <em>Passiflora edulis f. edulis</em> and <em>Passiflora edulis f. flavicarpa</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pistachio Growers Association Inc.</td>
<td>Pistachios</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers Ltd. (Growcom)</td>
<td>Pineapples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raspberries and Blackberries Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Blackberries, Raspberries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ricegrowers' Association of Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberries Australia Inc.</td>
<td>Strawberries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summerfruit Australia Ltd.</td>
<td>Apricots, Interspecific Prunus hybrids, Nectarines, Peaches, Plums, Stone Fruits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule 8 - Consultation

(Clause 11)


1.1 Composition

1.1.1 The NMG, when considering Response Plan issues, will be comprised of a representative of each of the Affected Parties who should be:

(a) the Secretary of DAFF (Chair);

(b) the Chief Executive Officer of the State and Territory Government Parties;

(c) the President, Chairman (or officer who is properly authorised in writing to bind the Party) of each of the Affected Industry Parties; and

(d) the Chairman of Plant Health Australia (non-voting).

1.2 Terms of Reference

1.2.1 The NMG will:

(a) receive advice from the CCEPP on technical issues relating to an EPP or a Response Plan;

(b) receive regular reports from the CCEPP, including budgeted, committed and actual expenditure on a Response Plan;

(c) have responsibility for the key decisions relating to a Response Plan, including:

(i) the approval of a Response Plan, which includes an indicative budget;

(ii) the review of a Response Plan where the NMG believes the cost may exceed the Agreed Limit;

(iii) having regard to the advice of the CCEPP and pursuant to clause 9.1.1(b), the determination of the relevant and reasonable investigation and diagnostic costs of the Incident Definition Phase;

(iv) the setting of an upper limit on expenditure from time to time, at a level less than the Agreed Limit, below which Response Plan expenditure may be committed by the Lead Agency(s) without reference to the NMG;

(v) the determination of whether a Party or other person has acted appropriately in the matter of reporting of an EPP;

(vi) a determination that an EPP has been eradicated (acting on advice from the CCEPP);
(vii) a determination (on advice from the CCEPP) that eradication of an EPP by means of a Response Plan is not feasible;

(viii) the consideration of efficiency audit reports and the Financial Audit report; and

(ix) a determination (on advice from the CCEPP) that an emergency response should enter a Transition to Management Phase and approval of amendments to the Response Plan to incorporate the Transition to Management Phase;

(d) refer relevant issues arising out of a Response Plan to members of Plant Health Australia for consideration;

(e) report as necessary to Ministers who are signatories to the EPPRD in regard to a Response Plan; and

(f) where NMG rejects the advice of the CCEPP on matters under subparagraphs (i) to (ix) of this Part, report its reasons in writing to Ministers who are signatories to the EPPRD.

1.3 Meetings in respect of Response Plans

1.3.1 The NMG will meet as necessary to consider policy and financial issues associated with the implementation of a Response Plan and to ensure its effective management. The NMG may meet face to face, by teleconference or by video link.

1.3.2 Members may be represented at Meetings by a delegate identified by the member to the Chair at the commencement of the Response Plan.

1.3.3 Decisions must be made by Consensus with the exception of Cost Sharing decisions which must be Unanimous.

1.3.3A Only the Chief Executive Officers of the State and Territory Parties and Industry Party's President, Chairman or other authorised officer which will, or may, be required to contribute to Shared Costs in relation to a Response Plan have a right to vote in respect of that Response Plan.

1.3.4 Members may be accompanied by advisers who have specific expertise but these persons will not be a party to decisions.

1.3.5 Members of the NMG or their delegates need to be available at short notice (less than 24 hours).

1.3.6 The CCEPP will communicate with the NMG via the Chair of the CCEPP.

1.3.7 Whichever Party provides the Chair of NMG will provide its Secretariat services, and will provide reports of Meetings to each of the Affected Parties.

1.3.8 Where NMG does not:

(a) meet to consider a proposed Response Plan within 30 days of its receipt from the CCEPP; or
(b) approve or reject the proposed Response Plan within 30 days of its receipt from the CCEPP,

the proposed Response Plan will be deemed to be rejected.

1.3.9 If a proposed Response Plan has been deemed to have been rejected under paragraph 1.3.8, the CCEPP may resubmit the proposed Response Plan, or an amended proposed Response Plan, to the NMG at a later date.

2 The CCEPP

2.1 The CCEPP’s role in respect of an EPP

2.1.1 To effectively and efficiently co-ordinate the national technical response to EPPs, and to advise Meetings of the NMG on EPP issues in accordance with this Deed.

2.2 Terms of reference

2.2.1 The CCEPP is the key technical coordinating body providing the link between the Commonwealth, States/Territories, Industry, Plant Health Australia and the NMG for Plant Pest emergencies.

2.2.2 Under this Deed, the CCEPP has specific responsibilities that include to:

(a) receive formal notifications from government Parties on Incidents;

(b) determine if the Incident concerns an EPP;

(c) advise the NMG if a Response Plan is required;

(d) make recommendations to the NMG in respect of the detail of a Response Plan;

(e) consider regular reports on progress of a Response Plan and develop a Consensus\(^1\) on further actions required;

(f) having regard to any baselines agreed pursuant to clause 14.1.2, advise the NMG in respect of clause 9.1.1(b) as to the investigation and diagnostic costs that are relevant and reasonable in the circumstances of the Incident Definition Phase of the Response Plan;

(g) provide regular consolidated reports to the Affected Parties, and to the NMG, on the status of a Response Plan;

(h) in circumstances in which the CCEPP determines that eradication of an EPP is no longer feasible, to provide advice and recommendations to the NMG on:

(i) whether a Transition to Management Phase is appropriate and if so, the scope of the Transition to Management Phase

\(^1\) A Consensus decision can be made to present one or more views or courses of action to the NMG.
and the proposed amendments to the Response Plan for inclusion of the Transition to Management Phase; or

(ii) whether the NMG should determine that an emergency response should cease and on options for alternative arrangements outside this Deed;

(i) determine and advise the NMG when an EPP has been eradicated under a Response Plan; and

(j) recommend when proof of freedom has been achieved following the successful implementation of a Response Plan.

3 Membership of the CCEPP in respect of an EPP

3.1 Chairperson

3.1.1 The Chief Plant Protection Officer (or their nominee) convenes and chairs Meetings of the CCEPP. The chairperson has the right to vote.

3.2 Standing representatives of Commonwealth, State and Territory plant health agencies

3.2.1 All State and Territory CPHMs or equivalent (or their nominees).

3.2.2 Two representatives with expertise in biosecurity policy and biosecurity operations from the Department of Agriculture (non-voting).

3.2.3 A representative of Plant Health Australia (non-voting).

3.3 Members representing Relevant Industry Parties

3.3.1 In advance of the determination of a Response Plan, the Industry Parties will each provide to the CCEPP’s secretariat two nominees who will join the CCEPP immediately in an emergency affecting their Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops and they will have the right to vote. The nominees will comprise:

(a) a representative nominated in advance by the Industry Parties collectively but drawn from an organisation that is a member of Plant Health Australia; and

(b) a technical representative nominated by the Relevant Industry(s).

3.4 Observers/resource persons

3.4.1 Members may be accompanied by advisers who have specific expertise but these persons will not be party to decisions. A person with relevant health, environment and amenity flora expertise may also be invited to attend CCEPP meetings if appropriate to the emergency. However, the number of observers/resource persons must be kept to the essential minimum. All attendees must be announced and recorded as ‘present’ in the minutes. Members are responsible for ensuring that the observers that they invite abide by the requirements of the CCEPP’s Operating Guidelines.
3.5 Meetings

3.5.1 Decisions must be taken by Consensus.

3.5.2 Whichever Party provides the Chair of the CCEPP will provide its secretariat services, and will provide reports of Meetings to each of the Affected Parties.

3.5.3 The CCEPP may meet face to face, by teleconference, by video link or by email.

4 Categorisation Group

4.1 Procedure

4.1.1 The Categorisation Group must meet by teleconference, videoconference or face-to-face and to report its findings to Plant Health Australia within 30 days of being convened by Plant Health Australia.

4.1.2 Decisions of the Categorisation Group will be made by Consensus.

4.1.3 In the event that Consensus cannot be reached, the matter will be referred to the Board of Plant Health Australia.

4.1.4 Costs associated with Categorisation Group operations will be met by Plant Health Australia out of its EPP Program budget.

4.2 Terms of Reference

4.2.1 Taking into account relevant scientific and other knowledge and experience, the Categorisation Group must consider requests for categorisation, re-categorisation or removal from categorisation of an EPP.

4.2.2 Taking into account relevant scientific and other knowledge and experience the Categorisation Group must determine, and where requested review, the Funding Weight for an EPP.

4.3 Membership

4.3.1 As a minimum the Categorisation Group will comprise:

(a) An independent chair from Plant Health Australia;

(b) one standing member representing Industry Parties nominated by the Board of Plant Health Australia;

(c) 3 technical experts (people with specific expertise in the relevant areas of plant pathology or entomology), 1 nominated by the Commonwealth, 1 nominated by the States and Territories, and 1 nominated by the Industry Party(s);

(d) a person with relevant economic expertise, including in social, trade and regional and national impact assessment nominated by the Chairman of Plant Health Australia; and

(e) a nominee from each Industry Party Affected by the EPP being categorised.
4.3.2 Where appropriate, a Categorisation Group may seek advice from:

(a) a person with public health expertise, if a public health risk may exist;

(b) a person with amenity flora expertise, if an amenity flora risk may exist;

(c) a conservation representative; and/or

(d) other relevant members determined by the independent chair.

4.4 Observers/resource persons

4.4.1 Advisers who have specific expertise may accompany members but these persons will not participate in decision making. Health and Environment Department staff may also be invited if appropriate to the emergency. However, the number of observers/resource persons must be kept to the essential minimum. All attendees must be announced and recorded as 'present' in the minutes. Members are responsible for ensuring that the observers that they invite abide by the requirements of the Categorisation Group’s Operating Guidelines.

4.5 Decisions by the Categorisation Group

4.5.1 Decisions of the Categorisation Group must be made by Consensus agreement at a Meeting held in accordance with part 4.1.1 of this Schedule 8 at which a quorum is present. A quorum of the Categorisation Group is present if each of the persons listed in subparts 4.3.1(a), (b) and (c) of this Schedule 8 are present, together with:

(a) if there are six or less Affected Industry Parties, the nominees of all of those Parties; and

(b) if there are seven or more Affected Industry Parties, the nominees of at least half of those Parties.
Schedule 9 – Confidentiality Deed Poll

(Clause 11.4.2(e))

The Emergency Plant Pest Deed (the “EPPRD”) provides for Industry Representatives to be involved in consultations in the Emergency Response Phase and Proof of Freedom Phase of Incidents relevant to their cropping sector. Consequently, there is potential for information to be available to or received by these Representatives that is of a confidential nature. This information may include:

(a) commercial in confidence information relating to a third party
(b) sensitive information relating to government policies or financial interests
(c) information which attracts to legal professional privilege
(d) internal working documents
(e) information relating to national security or international relations
(f) personal information.

It is therefore intended that Industry Representatives sign a Confidentiality Deed Poll before receipt of confidential information. The Deed Poll is intended to be enforceable against the signatory by any Party to the EPPRD that has disclosed, or has an interest in, confidential information, even though no other party has executed the document.

The confidentiality undertakings made by Industry Representatives under each Deed Poll are in addition to the confidentiality undertakings made by the Relevant Parties under the EPPRD.

The Deed Poll will be in the following, or a similar, format – to be determined by Plant Health Australia from time to time.
I, [   ] of [    ], undertake and represent as follows:

1. In this Deed Poll unless the contrary intent appears, words and phrases have the same meaning as given in the Emergency Plant Pest Deed (the “EPPRD”).

2. I am participating in consultations and activities relating to the Emergency Response Phase and the Proof of Freedom Phase of an Emergency Plant Pest response forming part of an Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan (Response Plan) conducted under the Deed as a Representative of one of the Parties to the Deed.

3. In the context of those activities, I will receive Confidential Information which I understand to include information acquired or produced by or available to me arising out of or in connection with my participation in Meetings, teleconferences and other activities forming part of a Response Plan under the Deed.

4. I understand Confidential Information to include information which a Party indicates to be confidential or which I should reasonably be aware is confidential, other than information which:

   (a) is already in the public domain or, after the date of this Deed Poll, becomes part of the public domain otherwise than as a result of an unauthorised disclosure by a Party or its Representatives;

   (b) is or becomes available to me from a third party lawfully in possession of this information and who has the lawful power to disclose such information to me on a non-confidential basis;

   (c) was in my possession without restrictions as to its use or was developed by me (as shown by my written record or other competent evidence) prior to the date of disclosure to me under this Deed Poll; or

   (d) I am required by law to disclose.

5. I hereby undertake to each Party:

   (a) subject to paragraph 5(f), to comply with the requirements notified to me by Plant Health Australia Limited or the Consultative CCEPP on Emergency Plant Pests regarding use of Confidential Information;

   (b) not to disclose or use Confidential Information for purposes other than those for which it is provided to me;

   (c) to only make Confidential Information available to those persons who have a “need to know” for the proper performance of the Response Plan;

   (d) to ensure that Confidential Information is stored with or protected by appropriate security, having regard to the nature of the Confidential Information and the medium in which it is found;

   (e) to ensure that Confidential Information is used only in accordance with any conditions or limitations advised by the disclosing Party or Parties or by any of their clients with whose material or verbal information I am working; and
to ensure that Confidential Information is not, except as required by law, disclosed to any other party or made public without the prior approval in writing of the disclosing Party or Parties as the case may be.

Executed as a DEED POLL

Signed by:

______________________________

in the presence of:

Witness: _______________________

______________________________

(witness name printed)

Date: __________________________

[Notes for completion of this Deed Poll:

Form of execution and attestation clause will need to comply with any requirements of the jurisdiction in which this Deed Poll is made.]
### Schedule 10 – Accounting and reporting

(Clause 12.2)

1. **Statement of Expenditure**

A guide to the structure and content of the report to be submitted to each relevant Meeting of the CCEPP follows. The sub-headings may be regarded as a checklist to aid in the development of the report and the report may not necessarily need to refer to all matters referred to in the sub-headings. The amount of detail will depend on the nature and extent of the Response Plan, and the stage of the Response Plan.

1.1 **EPP Response Plan (Response Plan)**

1.1.1 Approved expenditure limit: $_________________

1.2 **Staffing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary and wages of staff employed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligible staff directly employed with the Response Plan (x persons @ $/day @ y days)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- salary and wages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- on-costs (eg payroll tax, superannuation, insurance)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private [plant health, health, environment and amenity flora experts]</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private plant health, health, environment and amenity flora experts engaged under contract to assist directly with the Response Plan: fees and allowances at rates approved by the CCEPP or other relevant fee structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volunteers</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allowances</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meal allowances for all persons assisting directly with the Response Plan, where meals not provided.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- x persons @ $/day @ y days penalty and overtime payments for eligible staff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- x persons @ $/day @ y days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 1.3 Operating expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accommodation</strong></td>
<td>x persons @ $/day @ y days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meals</strong></td>
<td>x persons @ $/day @ y days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Travel expenses</strong></td>
<td>(a) group</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>bus hire x buses @ $/day (rate depends on size)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) individuals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>x motor vehicles @ y cents/km (rate depends on size)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>x airfares @ $y (return economy)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contractor services</strong></td>
<td>earthmoving x days @ $/day @ y days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>security x days @ $/day @ y days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>transport and courier x days @ $/day @ y days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>other (specify)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plant and equipment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chemicals/pesticides for destruction/decontamination</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consumables</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communications (installation, hire charges etc)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Laboratory</strong></td>
<td>State labs ($/test @ x tests)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Private labs ($/test @ x tests)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital Items</strong></td>
<td>Depending on the scale of the Incident, purchase of capital equipment would be ineligible. Most items may be able to be hired or leased.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Owner Reimbursement Costs – for development purposes only</strong></td>
<td>See Part 4.4 of Schedule 6.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2 Monitoring of expenditure

2.1 The NMG will set an upper limit on expenditure by reference to the indicative budget that forms part of the approved Response Plan and to the willingness of the Parties to commit to that limit having regard to the Cost Sharing principles. The upper limit may be less than but no more than the Agreed Limit determined under clause 9.5.1. The Lead Agency(s) and the CCEPP may commit expenditure without reference to the NMG whilst the budgeted and actual expenditure reported to NMG from time to time under clause 12.2.2 is less than the upper limit and within the conditions set by the approved Response Plan. The upper limit should be regularly reviewed by the NMG and communicated to participants in the Response Plan. Expenditure by the Lead Agency(s) in excess of the upper limit applying from time to time may not be approved by the NMG for Cost Sharing.
Schedule 11 – Auditing

(Clause 12)

1 Efficiency Auditing

The efficiency audit should form a systematic and independent examination to determine whether eradication activities and any related activities comply with the approved Response Plan, and whether the Response Plan is implemented effectively and is suitable to achieve its objectives.

The Efficiency Advocate must have regard to the following matters:

(a) whether the response activities detailed in the Response Plan are being implemented as described;

(b) whether the response activities of the Lead Agency are conducted in an effective and efficient manner;

(c) whether the expenditures made by the Lead Agency or other Affected Party under the Response Plan and for which the Lead Agency or other Affected Party seek to be subject to Cost Sharing, are valid, accurate and in accordance with Part 4 of Schedule 6 of the Deed; and

(d) to recommend on corrective action to modify the Response Plan where necessary.

Progressive audit reports will be required during the course of the implementation of the Response Plan as required by the Affected Parties, and in particular at the end of each six months (or other agreed period) referred to in Schedule 7.

A final audit report must be provided to the NMG within 60 days of the Response Plan Completion Date.

2 Financial Auditing

Financial auditing of a Response Plan is required when the total Cost Shared amount is equal to or exceeds $500,000².

The financial auditor must have regard to the following matters:

(a) attestation of financial data incorporated in prescribed financial statements prepared by the Lead Agency (and by other Parties seeking payment of Shared Costs), including the expression of an opinion as to whether the financial statements fairly present the financial position and the results of financial operations in terms of the Deed, accounting standards and other administrative guidelines;

(b) examination of financial systems and transactions including an evaluation of compliance with the Deed;

² $500,000 in 2011/2012, to be indexed annually using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) at 30 June each year and applying from 1 July each year.
(c) reporting of observations or suggestions about any matters arising from audits that the auditor considers should be brought to the attention of the Parties;

(d) where they become apparent in the course of the audit, the identification of any potential claims or litigation matters which may involve any Parties, whether jointly or individually, and the extent of any exposure to such claims or litigation; and

(e) any other activities and issues that the Affected Parties may require.

For the purpose of conducting any audit within the auditor's mandate, the auditor is entitled at all reasonable times to full and free access to all documents, records and property relevant to the audit and necessary co-operation from auditee personnel to aid in accomplishing the audit task.

A final audit report must be provided to all Affected Parties within 60 days of the Response Plan Completion Date (or such other date as agreed by the Affected Parties).

The audits must be conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.
Schedule 12 – Deed of Accession

(Clauses 3.2 and 3.4)

Part 1  Deed of Accession for a New Party to the EPPRD

THIS DEED IS MADE ON  20[xx]

PARTIES

PLANT HEALTH AUSTRALIA LIMITED (ABN 97 092 607 997) of Level 1, 1 Phipps Close, Deakin on behalf of Parties to the Emergency Plant Pest Deed.

(Plant Health Australia)

AND

[NEW PARTY]

[(Name)]

BACKGROUND

A  [New Party], a body nationally representative of the [name of Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops], has applied to become a Party to the EPPRD in accordance with clause 3.1.1 of the EPPRD.

B  The Parties to the EPPRD have agreed that [New Party] should become a Party to the EPPRD in accordance with clause 3.2 of the EPPRD.

AGREEMENT

1  Accession

1.1  [New Party] agrees from the date of execution of this Deed by both Parties to this Deed (‘Effective Date’) to be become a Party to and to be bound by and accept the obligations and liabilities arising under the EPPRD from the Effective Date.

2  Counterparts

2.1  This Deed may be executed in a number of counterparts and if so executed, the counterparts taken together constitute one Deed.
3 Further assurance

3.1 Each Party must, at its own expense, promptly execute all documents and do all things that another Party from time to time reasonably requests to give effect to the terms and conditions of this Deed and the transactions incidental to it.

4 Agency

4.1 No Party to this Deed has, except as otherwise specified in this Deed, any right to act on behalf of, represent itself as agent for, or otherwise bind, the other Party.

5 Entire Agreement

5.1 This Deed, read in conjunction with the EPPRD, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties in relation to the subject matter of this Deed. Any prior arrangements, agreements, representations or undertakings are superseded and each Party acknowledges that it has not relied on any arrangement, agreement, representation or understanding which is not expressly set out in this Deed.

6 Governing law and jurisdiction

6.1 This Deed is governed by and must be construed in accordance with the laws of the Australian Capital Territory.

EXECUTED as a DEED on [insert date]

Signed sealed and delivered by PLANT HEALTH AUSTRALIA LIMITED (ABN 97 092 607 997) in the presence of:

______________________________  ______________________________
Director                          (name printed)

______________________________  ______________________________
Director/Secretary                (name printed)
Part 2  Deed of Accession for a Replacement Party to the EPPRD

THIS DEED IS MADE ON 20[xx]

PARTIES

PLANT HEALTH AUSTRALIA LIMITED (ABN 97 092 607 997) of Level 1, 1 Phipps Close, Deakin on behalf of Parties to the Emergency Plant Pest Deed.

(Plant Health Australia)

AND

[REPLACEMENT BODY]

[(Name)]

BACKGROUND

A. The Party representing the [name of Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops] (Existing Party) as a Party to the Emergency Plant Pest Deed (EPPRD) a copy of which is annexed to this Deed has advised that it has ceased or will shortly cease to be representative of its Crop, Crops or sub-group of Crops.

B. [Replacement body], a body nationally representative of that cropping sector, has applied to become a Party to the EPPRD.

C. The Parties to the EPPRD have agreed that [Replacement Body] should become a Party to the EPPRD in accordance with clause 3.4 of the EPPRD.
AGREEMENT

- **Accession**
  6.2 [Replacement body] agrees from the date of execution of this Deed by both Parties to this Deed (‘Effective Date’) to be become a Party to and to be bound by and accept the obligations and liabilities arising under the EPPRD from the Effective Date.

- **Existing Party ceases**
  7.1 The Parties acknowledge that pursuant to clause 3.3.1 of the EPPRD [Existing Party] ceases to be a Party to the EPPRD from the Effective Date.

- **Existing Party liability and obligations**
  8.1 The Parties also acknowledge that pursuant to clause 3.3(a) of the EPPRD the Existing Party will remain liable for any liabilities accrued to other Parties to the EPPRD prior to the Effective Date except to the extent that [Replacement Body] has agreed in this Deed to meet those obligations.
  8.2 Replacement Body has agreed in this Deed to meet the following obligations:

- **Counterparts**
  9.1 This Deed may be executed in a number of counterparts and if so executed, the counterparts taken together constitute one Deed.

- **Further assurance**
  10.1 Each Party must, at its own expense, promptly execute all documents and do all things that another Party from time to time reasonably requests to give effect to the terms and conditions of this Deed and the transactions incidental to it.

- **Agency**
  11.1 No Party to this Deed has, except as otherwise specified in this Deed, any right to act on behalf of, represent itself as agent for, or otherwise bind, the other Party.

- **Entire Agreement**
  12.1 This Deed, read in conjunction with the EPPRD, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties in relation to the subject matter of this Deed. Any prior arrangements, agreements, representations or undertakings are superseded and each Party acknowledges that it has not relied on any arrangement, agreement, representation or understanding which is not expressly set out in this Deed.
13 Governing law and jurisdiction

13.1 This Deed is governed by and must be construed in accordance with the laws of the Australian Capital Territory.

EXECUTED as a DEED on [insert date]

Signed sealed and delivered by PLANT HEALTH AUSTRALIA LIMITED (ABN 97 092 607 997) in the presence of:

________________________________________       ________________________________
Director                                               (name printed)

________________________________________       ________________________________
Director/Secretary                                     (name printed)

Signed sealed and delivered by
[REPLACEMENT BODY] in the presence of:

________________________________________
Witness: ________________________________

______________________________
(witness name printed)
The EPPs which have been classified are set out below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Formal Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ceratocystis ulmi</em></td>
<td>Dutch elm disease</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Phytophthora ramorum</em></td>
<td>Sudden oak death</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Uredo rangelii</em></td>
<td>Myrtle rust</td>
<td>1 (13/8/10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Adoxophyes orana</em></td>
<td>Summer fruit tortrix</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Bactrocera dorsalis</em></td>
<td>Oriental fruit fly</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Bactrocera papayae</em></td>
<td>Papaya fruit fly</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Bactrocera philippinensis</em></td>
<td>Philippine fruit fly</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Blood Disease Bacterium</em></td>
<td>Blood Disease</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Candidatus Liberibacter psyllaurosis</em></td>
<td>Candidatus Liberibacter psyllaurosis</td>
<td>2 (29/9/10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Conotrachelus nenuphar</em></td>
<td>Plum weevil</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Cryptonectria parasitica</em></td>
<td>Chestnut blight</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Cryptophlebia leucotreta</em></td>
<td>False codling moth</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Erwinia amylovora</em></td>
<td>Fire blight</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Fusarium oxysporum f.sp. cubense</em></td>
<td>Panama disease Tropical race 4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Halyomorpha halys</em></td>
<td>Brown marmorated stink bug</td>
<td>2 (26/2/20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Liberobacter asiaticus</em></td>
<td>Huanglongbing/Citrus Greening</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Magnaporthe grisea</em></td>
<td>Rice blast</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Mycosphaerella fijiensis</em></td>
<td>Black Sigatoka</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Phymatotrichum omnivorum</em></td>
<td>Texas root rot</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Pomacea canaliculata</em></td>
<td>golden apple snail</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Potyvirus Plum pox virus</em></td>
<td>Plum pox virus/sharka</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ralstonia solanacearum race 2</em></td>
<td>Moko</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Sesamia grisescens</em></td>
<td>Stem borer</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Tilletia indica</em></td>
<td>Karnal bunt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Trogoderma granarium</em></td>
<td>Khapra beetle</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Name</td>
<td>Common Name</td>
<td>Formal Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unknown</strong></td>
<td>Ramu Stunt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Xanthomonas axonopodis pv. citri</strong></td>
<td>Citrus Canker</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Xylella fastidiosa</strong></td>
<td>Pierces disease</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aleurolobus barodensis</strong></td>
<td>Sugarcane whitefly</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amyelois transitella</strong></td>
<td>Navel orangeworm</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anisogramma anomalae</strong></td>
<td>Hazelnut blight</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anthonomus bisignatus</strong></td>
<td>Strawberry bud weevil</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anthonomus grandis</strong></td>
<td>boll weevil</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Apiosporina morbosa</strong></td>
<td>Black knot</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bactericera cockerelli</strong></td>
<td>Tomato/potato psyllid</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Banana Bract Mosaic Virus</strong></td>
<td>Banana Bract Mosaic Disease</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Begomovirus Cotton leaf curl virus</strong></td>
<td>Cotton leaf curl disease</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ciborinia camelliae</strong></td>
<td>Camellia petal blight</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clavibacter michiganensis subsp. sepedonicus</strong></td>
<td>Ring rot</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Daktulosphaira vitifolii</strong></td>
<td>Grape Phylloxera Type B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Diaphorina citri</strong></td>
<td>Citrus psyllid</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Globodera rostochiensis</strong></td>
<td>Potato cyst nematode</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guignardia bidwellii</strong></td>
<td>Black rot</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guignardia musae</strong></td>
<td>freckle</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leptinotarsa decemlineata</strong></td>
<td>Colorado potato beetle</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liriomyza sativae</strong></td>
<td>Vegetable leafminer</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lissorhoptrus oryzophilus</strong></td>
<td>Rice water weevil</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marchalina hellenica</strong></td>
<td>Giant pine scale</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mayetiola destructor</strong></td>
<td>Hessian fly</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MLO</strong></td>
<td>European stone fruit yellows</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MLO</strong></td>
<td>Peach X disease</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monilia fructigena</strong></td>
<td>Brown rot</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Neonectria ditissima</strong></td>
<td>European canker</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nepovirus Cherry leaf roll virus</strong></td>
<td>Blackline</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Noorda albizonalis</strong></td>
<td>Red banded borer</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numonia pirivorella</strong></td>
<td>Pear fruit moth</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Name</td>
<td>Common Name</td>
<td>Formal Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otiorhynchus rugosostriatus</td>
<td>Rough strawberry weevil</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peronosclerospora sacchari</td>
<td>Sugarcane downy mildew</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phakopsora euvitis</td>
<td>Grapevine leaf rust</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoma tracheiphila</td>
<td>Mal Secco</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phytophthora fragariae var. fragariae</td>
<td>Phytophthora</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roesleria subterranea</td>
<td>Grape root rot</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scirtothrips aurantii</td>
<td>South African citrus thrips</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stagonospora sacchari</td>
<td>Leaf scorch</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sternochetus frigidus</td>
<td>Mango pulp weevil</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugarcane White Leaf Phytoplasma</td>
<td>White leaf</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tilletia barclayana</td>
<td>Kernel smut of rice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribolium castaneum</td>
<td>rust red flour beetle (resistant)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varroa destructor</td>
<td>Varroa mite</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verticillium dahliae</td>
<td>Verticillium wilt (defoliating strain)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xanthomonas axonopodis pv. malvacearum</td>
<td>Bacterial blight</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bacterial blight, angular leaf spot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xanthomonas fragariae</td>
<td>Angular leaf spot</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Category 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Formal Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acleris comariana</td>
<td>Strawberry tortrix</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erionota thrax</td>
<td>banana skipper butterfly</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High plains virus</td>
<td>High plains virus</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lygus hesperus</td>
<td>Western plant bug</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(13/8/10)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mythimna unipuncta</td>
<td>Armyworm</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peridroma saucia</td>
<td>Variegated cutworm</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puccinia asparagi</td>
<td>Asparagus rust</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugarcane streak mosaic virus</td>
<td>Streak mosaic</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sugarcane streak mosaic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tetranycychus piercei</td>
<td>Spider mite</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat spindle streak mosaic virus</td>
<td>Wheat spindle streak mosaic virus</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule 14 – Agreed Limits

(Clause 9.5.2(d))

The following are the Agreed Limits notified by Industry Parties as at the Operative Date and as approved by the Parties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Party</th>
<th>Agreed Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple and Pear Australia Ltd. (ACN 101 551 348)</td>
<td>2% of the LVP of the Affected subgroup of Crops identified in Part 3.3.1 of Schedule 6 in relation to the relevant Industry Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Banana Growers’ Council Inc. (ABN 60 381 740 734)</td>
<td>$20 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc. (ABN 63 939 614 424)</td>
<td>Zero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Macadamia Society Ltd. (ABN 19 010 689 415)</td>
<td>2% of LVP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avocados Australia Ltd. (ABN 87 105 853 807)</td>
<td>2% of the LVP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus Australia Ltd. (ABN 75 130 238 792)</td>
<td>2% of the LVP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain Producers Australia Ltd. (ABN 66 675 415 182)</td>
<td>2% of the LVP of the Affected subgroup of Crops identified in Part 3.3.1 of Schedule 6 in relation to the relevant Industry Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenlife Industry Australia Ltd. (ABN 59 634 584 017)</td>
<td>2% of the LVP of the affected crop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers Ltd. (Growcom) (ABN 51 090 816 827)</td>
<td>2% of LVP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ricegrowers’ Association of Australia Inc. (ABN 65 191 537 636)</td>
<td>2% of the LVP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberries Australia Inc. (ABN 53 635 363 679)</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summerfruit Australia Ltd. (ABN 51 105 962 196)</td>
<td>$5 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule 15 – Statements by Government and Industry Parties on Biosecurity Policies and Programs

**Government Statements**

15.1 Commonwealth of Australia
15.2 The State of Queensland
15.3 The State of New South Wales
15.4 The State of Victoria
15.5 The State of South Australia
15.6 The State of Tasmania
15.7 The Western Australian Government
15.8 The Northern Territory of Australia
15.9 The Australian Capital Territory

**Industry Statements**

15A Almond Board of Australia Inc.
15B Apple and Pear Australia Ltd.
15C Australian Banana Growers’ Council Inc.
15D Australian Cane Growers’ Council Ltd.
15E Australian Forest Products Association Ltd.
15F Australian Ginger Industry Association Inc.
15G Australian Grape and Wine Inc.
15H Australia Honey Bee Industry Council Inc.
15I Australian Lychee Growers Association Inc.
15J Australian Mango Industry Association Ltd.
15K Australian Melon Association Inc.
15L Australian Olive Association Ltd.
15M Australian Processing Tomato Research Council Inc.
15N Australian Sweetpotato Growers Inc.
15O Australian Tea Tree Industry Association Ltd.
15P Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc.
15Q AUSVEG Ltd.
15R Avocados Australia Ltd.
15S  Chestnuts Australia Inc.
15T  Citrus Australia Ltd.
15U  Cotton Australia Ltd.
15V  Dried Fruits Australia Inc.
15W  Grain Producers Australia Ltd.
15X  Greenlife Industry Australia Ltd.
15Y  Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc.
15Z  Onions Australia Inc.
15AA Pistachio Growers Association Inc.
15AB Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers Ltd. (Growcom)
15AC Raspberries and Blackberries Australia Inc.
15AD Ricegrowers’ Association of Australia Inc.
15AE Strawberries Australia Inc.
15AF Summerfruit Australia Ltd.
1. Overview

The Australian Government works with its stakeholders to maintain and improve Australia’s plant health status. Plant health is critical to the long-term viability of Australia’s agricultural and forestry industries and the protection of the environment. Australia’s enviable plant health status also helps Australian producers to produce plants and plant products more sustainably and competitively for domestic markets, and to access international markets.

The Commonwealth of Australia and state and territory governments are party to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity (IGAB) which is a key element of Australia’s biosecurity architecture. The IGAB defines the goals and objectives of the national biosecurity system, and clarifies the roles, responsibilities and governance arrangements that guide the Commonwealth and states and territories in supporting it. The Australian Government’s plant biosecurity responsibilities are delivered through the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment in partnership with a range of other Australian Government agencies.

Australia is one of the few countries in the world to remain free from the world’s most severe pests and diseases. For this reason, successive governments have maintained a low risk approach to the management of biosecurity risks, recognising that a zero risk stance is impractical. Australia’s Appropriate Level Of Protection (ALOP) approach contained in the Biosecurity Act 2015, is consistent with the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the SPS Agreement) and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), and is evident in the range of biosecurity activities undertaken by the Australian Government, including policies for and regulations on imported commodities, border procedures and responses to incursions of pests and diseases.

Australia’s national biosecurity system, which manages the risk of pests and diseases entering, emerging, establishing or spreading and causing harm, is complex and interconnected. It is made up of many functions, processes and controls, and is impacted by a number of external sources, both domestic and international. Biosecurity is a shared responsibility. As such, the government works in partnership with state and territory governments, industry, clients and the community, to undertake a range of activities to mitigate biosecurity risks and to respond to biosecurity incidents. These activities are undertaken offshore, at the border and onshore.

2. Australian Government agencies involved with plant health

2.1. Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment administers the Biosecurity Act 2015, which contains the regulatory powers and requirements for managing biosecurity risks associated with goods, people and conveyances entering Australia. This includes responsibility for activities relating to plant health and biosecurity.

The department is also responsible for developing national policy on pests, including invasive plants, and diseases that cause harm to the environment. This includes assessing the environmental impact associated with proposals to import live animal species under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (noting the approvals for plants, fungi and microbes are undertaken in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015), ensuring that Australia complies with its obligations under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the Convention on Biological Diversity.
The department’s priorities in managing biosecurity are to:

- manage risk, supported by research, science and information, to direct resources to the areas that matter most and where the greatest risk reduction can be achieved
- foster productive relationships with overseas, state and territory governments, industry, farmers and the Australian community to ensure resources and efforts are combined and not duplicated and that all partners understand their roles and responsibilities
- lead the development and implementation of national biosecurity policies that support a strong biosecurity system both domestically and internationally
- deliver services to support access to overseas markets and protect the economy and the environment from the impacts of new and established pests and diseases
- maintain a workforce that has the knowledge, tools and skills to meet current and future biosecurity challenges and are supported by quality legislation, training, policies and procedures to help ensure good decision making
- facilitate a collaborative approach to managing and sharing biosecurity information with our partners
- provide assurance to our trading partners and the wider community that the biosecurity system is working effectively and that trading partners meet Australia’s biosecurity requirements

The department provides high quality scientific and technical advice to support Australia’s agricultural exports and biosecurity risk mitigation. In partnership with the states and territories and industry, it is responsible for managing and coordinating national responses to changes in plant health status. The department undertakes activities that enhance plant health infrastructure and capacity, and coordinates national technical and operational plant health policy consistent with international and national obligations and strategic objectives.

The department develops national policy relating to biosecurity, onshore reform and response arrangements. It also contributes to the development of a risk-based approach to biosecurity operations and prepares for – and responds to – biosecurity threats and incursions.

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) undertakes economic research and provides economic and scientific advice to support the department’s aim of improving the profitability, competitiveness and sustainability of agricultural industries, while enhancing the natural resource base on which they rely. ABARES supports the plant biosecurity system by collaborating with other government agencies to ensure that decision makers receive sound scientific and economic advice.

2.2. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has a role in advancing Australia’s national interests in a regional and global environment. This includes providing foreign and trade policy advice to the Australian Government, government agencies and stakeholders. In relation to plant biosecurity, DFAT provides policy and strategic advice on market access and trade issues across the bilateral and multilateral trade agreements that Australia has with its international trading partners. DFAT is also responsible for international development and aid programs relating to improving regional biosecurity capacity and capability.

2.3. Australian Border Force

Australian Border Force manages the security and integrity of Australia’s borders. It works closely with government and international agencies, to regulate and control the movement of goods and people across the Australian border.

The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment and Australian Border Force have a Memorandum of Understanding in place to underpin the strategic working relationship between the two agencies and manage common border protection and biosecurity functions.

2.4. Australian Department of Defence

The Australian Government manages military biosecurity through collaboration between the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment and the Department of Defence including the Australian Defence Force (Defence).
This collaboration takes into account the department’s obligations and powers under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and Defence’s obligations and powers. A Memorandum of Understanding between the department and Defence sets out the roles and responsibilities of each department together with policies and procedures to manage biosecurity risks and ensure that roles and responsibilities are clear and understood.

### 2.5. Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA)

APVMA is a statutory authority established in 1993 under the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992*. It has the important role of safeguarding public health and protecting workers from negative workplace health and safety issues, protecting the environment and trading relationships from potential detrimental effects of agricultural and veterinary chemicals. Before an agricultural or veterinary chemical product can enter the Australian market, it must be assessed against APVMA’s rigorous criteria to ensure that it meets high standards of safety and effectiveness. An emergency use permit for the supply or use of an unregistered or off-label product may be granted to control a pest or disease outbreak.

### 2.6. Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)

CSIRO delivers research on a range of plant biosecurity threats with a focus on risk and pathway analysis, preparedness, invasion ecology, impacts and response. CSIRO provides specialist support in remote diagnostics and response capability. It also provides independent scientific advice to the department, and other parties, on invasive species and management options including through biological control.

### 2.7. Research and development corporations

Research and development corporations are responsible for meeting the research and development (R&D) needs of industry, including the plant and honeybee industries, and the broader community. The government partners with industry to fund and deliver R&D outputs.

### 2.8. Other agencies

Other government agencies that contribute to maintaining Australia’s plant biosecurity system include the Department of Health.

### 3. Import and export of goods

The Australian Government regulates the importation of plants and plant products into Australia under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, *Imported Food Control Act 1992* and where relevant, the *Gene Technology Act 2000* and associated subordinate legislation. Import conditions must be met, and in many cases import permits are required, for the importation of plant and plant products. Permits may also be required under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in relation to the import of internationally endangered species and live specimens.

The provisions of the *Export Control Act 1982* and its subordinate legislation provide the legal framework for Australian producers to export their products. Exporters must meet both the requirements of this Act and any requirements of the importing country. The department provides phytosanitary inspection, audit, verification, and certification services for plant and plant products in accordance with importing country requirements and Australia’s international obligations.

### 4. International plant health

The Australian Chief Plant Protection Officer (ACPPO) is the primary representative on matters relating to the management, maintenance and improvement of Australia’s plant health status and the systems that support it. The ACPPO is also Australia’s international contact point for the IPPC, and has a formal role in responses to emergency plant pests including those affecting the environment and social amenity.

As a trading nation, the Australian Government has entered into a number of multilateral and bilateral trade agreements that influence Australia’s biosecurity system. Australia’s rights and obligations in relation to plant biosecurity are set out under the WTO SPS Agreement. The Australian Government is the enquiry point for requests from trading partners and other
international bodies to provide information on Australia’s sanitary and phytosanitary measures and biosecurity status, and will work with relevant state or territory governments to prepare a response to a query (where required).

The SPS Agreement restricts the use of unjustified sanitary and phytosanitary measures, but allows members to maintain a level of protection to protect human, animal and plant health, based international standards and guidelines and analysis and objective assessment of scientific data. This is known as the Appropriate Level of Protection (ALOP). Australia’s ALOP was agreed by all state and territory governments and reflects community expectations. It is expressed as: ‘providing a high level of sanitary and phytosanitary protection aimed at reducing risk to a very low level, but not zero’ and is a guiding principle of the Biosecurity Act 2015.

5. Biosecurity policies and programs

5.1. Offshore activities

Offshore, the Australian Government’s biosecurity activities are focused on minimizing the likelihood of exotic pests and diseases reaching our border and entering Australia, while facilitating the movement of people and goods across the border. Offshore activities include:

- conducting risk assessments to consider the level of biosecurity risk that may be associated with imports and identify risk management measures
- conducting offshore inspections of goods
- administering offshore programs that certify, verify and audit companies capable of conducting biosecurity treatments for goods bound for Australia
- collaborating with international partners on plant health issues and standards
- regional capacity building to improve plant health through collaborative activities
- intelligence gathering to assist in the determination and assessment of potential biosecurity risks.

5.2. Activities at the border

The detection of threats at the Australian border is the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment and remains a critical element of the plant biosecurity system. Biosecurity activities at the border are focused on:

- screening and inspection of international vessels, passengers, cargo, mail, animals, plants and plant products arriving in Australia by trained biosecurity officers, detector dogs and x-rays
- ensuring compliance of importers, passengers and mail
- managing the high biosecurity risks of live plants through containment, observation and/or treatment at quarantine facilities
- identifying and evaluating the specific biosecurity risks facing northern Australia through the Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy and Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Biosecurity Strategy
- raising awareness of travellers, importers and industry operators of Australia’s biosecurity requirements to achieve voluntary compliance.

5.3. Onshore activities

The Australian Government’s policy is to maintain a very low risk of plant pests entering and establishing in Australia. However, this does not guarantee that there will not be incursions. As a result, the Australian Government contributes to a range of onshore measures aimed at limiting the impact of a pest should it be detected within Australia, including:

- developing policies and programs to deliver plant biosecurity outcomes in the national interest
- coordinating national surveillance and diagnostic capability to assess and monitor Australia’s plant pest status and diagnose exotic pests to support decision making
- enhancing Australia’s preparedness and response to exotic pest incursions by promoting and supporting improvements in capacity and capability
- contributing to national plant biosecurity research and development capability and capacity
- working with biosecurity partners to build a shared understanding of biosecurity
• coordinating national responses to pest and disease incursions
• facilitating the management of nationally significant established plant pests.
Statement on Plant Biosecurity Policies and Programs for the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed

Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

This publication has been compiled by the Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity Program, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Queensland Government supports and encourages the dissemination and exchange of its information. The copyright in this publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia (CC BY) licence.

Under this licence you are free, without having to seek our permission, to use this publication in accordance with the licence terms.

You must keep intact the copyright notice and attribute the State of Queensland as the source of the publication.

For more information on this licence, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/deed.en

The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. The Queensland Government shall not be liable for technical or other errors or omissions contained herein. The reader/user accepts all risks and responsibility for losses, damages, costs and other consequences resulting directly or indirectly from using this information.
Contents

Scope of the Statement ........................................................................................................ 135

Plant Biosecurity in Queensland ......................................................................................... 135
  Strategy ........................................................................................................................... 135
  Service Delivery .............................................................................................................. 136
  Legislation ....................................................................................................................... 136
  Biosecurity Queensland Ministerial Advisory Council..................................................... 137
  Biosecurity in Torres Strait and the Northern Peninsula Area........................................ 137
  Biosecurity Emergency Preparedness and Response Project....................................... 138

Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity Program.............................................................. 138
  Area 1 – Risk Assessment and Scientific Advice ........................................................... 138
    Risk Assessment and Scientific Advice ................................................................... 138
    Research Coordination and Partnerships ................................................................ 139
    Biosecurity Planning and Partnerships .................................................................... 139
  Area 2 – Incident Response and Preparedness ............................................................. 139
    Incident Response ................................................................................................... 139
    Preparedness ........................................................................................................... 139
    Exotic Fruit Fly in Torres Strait Eradication Program .............................................. 140
    National Varroa Mite Eradication Program .............................................................. 140
  Area 3 – Surveillance, Control and Containment ........................................................... 140
    Surveillance Systems ............................................................................................... 140
    Control and Containment ......................................................................................... 140
    Panama TR4 Program ............................................................................................. 141
  Area 4 – Market Access .................................................................................................. 141
    Market Access Systems ........................................................................................... 141
    Certification and Accreditation Services .................................................................. 142
  Area 5 – Laboratory and Diagnostic Services ................................................................ 142
    Plant Biosecurity Laboratory .................................................................................... 142
    Chemical Residue Laboratory .................................................................................. 142
  Area 7 – Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity Operations ......................................... 142

Forest Health...................................................................................................................... 143
Scope of the Statement

This statement outlines Queensland’s plant biosecurity policies and programs, delivered by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF), which form the basis for Queensland’s commitment to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (the Deed). The Deed is a mechanism to facilitate rapid responses to, and the control and eradication of, Emergency Plant Pests (EPP). In general terms, EPP are harmful plant pests of regional and national significance that are either not present in the country, or restricted in geographical distribution and under active and official control.

This statement, as required by the Deed4, outlines Queensland’s “…biosecurity policies and programs relevant to (its) responsibilities including feral, neglected and unmanaged plants and plant pests, and public and environmental policies.”

The scope of this statement is limited to EPP and their host plants. This statement does not refer to weeds, which the Deed excludes from the definition of ‘feral’ plants.

A state is required5 to report in July of each year any material changes to the content of, or to its commitment to its Biosecurity Statement. It must also advise of any reduction in its resources available for its implementation of this commitment and identify any legislative obstacles to the operation of an industry’s biosecurity measures.

Plant Biosecurity in Queensland

Plant production industries make significant contributions to the national, state and local economies. Key cropping industries in Queensland include grains, cotton, sugar, tropical fruit, vegetables, nursery and forestry. For 2019-20, the value of Queensland’s plant commodities was forecast at $10.85 billion (gross value of production)6. Major international markets include Asia, the United States of America, the Middle East and New Zealand. Queensland’s location gives it production advantages over other states for tropical and sub-tropical crops and for early-season production of temperate crops.

Markets interstate and overseas are acutely sensitive to the threat of pests and may close access to Queensland produce should there be a significant pest incident, even if the incident is in another state. Ongoing market access depends on being able to demonstrate the favourable health status of Queensland’s plant industries.

Plant health is also a key determinant of the viability, productivity and sustainability of Australia’s crop industries. Many pests, irrespective of their market and human health impacts, may devastate industries or production systems at state, district or farm levels. Queensland addresses the biosecurity and market access risks to plant industries by maintaining its commitment to national and state preparedness, surveillance and response programs.

Strategy

The Queensland Government is committed to supporting the growth of a productive and prosperous food and fibre sector. The Queensland Government recognises that the future growth and development of the state’s agriculture sector is dependent on having effective biosecurity practices in place on the farm, at the state level and nationally.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Strategic Plan 2017 – 2021 recognises the importance of biosecurity through its commitment to continue to build Queensland’s biosecurity capability to

---

3 Definition of an EPP is in the Deed s1.1.
4 S13.1.3(b)
5 S13.1.4
6 Based on data presented in the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries AgTrends Update May 2020.
protect the economy, environment and community from biosecurity risks and to lead Queensland’s biosecurity responses.

The Queensland Government is currently undertaking the following initiatives to ensure effective biosecurity practices are in place:

- implementation of the Queensland Biosecurity Strategy – Our Next Five Years 2018 – 2023
- partnering with other agencies, local governments and industry to deliver more sustainable outcomes for agricultural producers affected by pests such as Panama disease tropical race 4, exotic fruit fly species, and Varroa jacobsoni
- establishment of a refreshed Biosecurity Queensland Ministerial Advisory Council
- annual biosecurity partner’s forum and biosecurity roundtable events
- development of a strong social media following and use of novel engagement opportunities to increase stakeholder awareness of biosecurity and to encourage reporting of suspected EPP.
- implementation of a Biosecurity Information Management System which supports timely data capture and analysis to improve the management of day-to-day business and biosecurity responses
- a review of the implementation of the Biosecurity Act 2014 and associated regulations and implement the outcomes of that review
- maintain a consistent risk-based decision-making process to support regulatory and policy decision-making in Queensland
- investment in building Queensland’s biosecurity emergency preparedness
- active participation in the strategic delivery of programs through the Northern Australia Biosecurity Framework and Queensland’s Far Northern Biosecurity Initiative to strengthen preparedness, diagnostics and surveillance capacity across north Queensland
- implementation of the Queensland agriculture and food research, development and extension 10-year roadmap and action plan

**Service Delivery**

Biosecurity Queensland, a business area of DAF, is responsible for leading and contributing to the initiatives that seek to achieve Queensland Government’s biosecurity goals. Other DAF business groups also contribute significantly to biosecurity risk management. In addition, linkages with other Queensland, interstate and Australian government agencies and with foreign collaborators provide access to a range of relevant expertise across all plant production sectors, including native and plantation forestry. Key linkages include:

- DAF’s Agri-Science Queensland business area, which provides science, innovation and associated services
- the Department of Environment and Science, and the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, which play a role in management of the natural environment and environmental pests
- the Australian Government Department of Agriculture
- Plant Health Australia
- Other state and territory agricultural departments and biosecurity agencies
- plant industry peak bodies and key representative bodies, to engage in and promote plant biosecurity to their membership.

**Legislation**

Legislative powers for plant protection in Queensland are provided in the Biosecurity Act 2014 and the Biosecurity Regulation 2016. The main purposes of the Act are to:

---

(a) provide a framework for an effective biosecurity system for Queensland that helps to minimise biosecurity risks and facilitates responding to impacts on a biosecurity consideration, including responding to biosecurity events, in a timely and effective way;
(b) ensure the safety and quality of animal feed, fertilisers and other agricultural inputs; and
(c) help align responses to biosecurity risks in the state with national and international obligations and requirements for accessing markets for animal and plant produce, including live animals and plants.

It is also a purpose of the Act to manage risks associated with the following:

(a) emerging, endemic and exotic pests and diseases that impact on
   (i) plant and animal industries, including agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture, fisheries and forestry industries; or
   (ii) the built environment; or
   (iii) companion or leisure animals; or
   (iv) biodiversity and the natural environment; or
   (v) tourism, lifestyle and pleasure industries; or
   (vi) infrastructure and service industries, including power, communication, shipping and water supplies;
(b) the transfer of diseases from animals to humans and from humans to animals;
(c) biological, chemical and physical contaminants in carriers.

Biosecurity Queensland Ministerial Advisory Council

The Biosecurity Queensland Ministerial Advisory Council (BQMAC) is an initiative of Biosecurity Queensland and was established in June 2010 with its membership and terms of reference refreshed in 2013 and 2019. The role of the BQMAC is to provide independent strategic advice to the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries on Queensland’s biosecurity. It includes representatives from industry, natural resource management, local government, and research institutions.

Biosecurity in Torres Strait and the Northern Peninsula Area

In 2016, a biosecurity working group was established to progress biosecurity management in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area. Membership of the working group included Biosecurity Queensland, the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and Energy, Queensland Health, Queensland Department of Environment and Science, Torres Strait Regional Authority, Torres Shire Council, Torres Strait Islands Regional Council, Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council and other locally relevant stakeholder groups.

The Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Biosecurity Strategy (the strategy) was developed by the working group in recognition of the unique challenges and opportunities in the management of biosecurity risks in the region. It is the first over-arching biosecurity strategy developed for the region and recognises that a new approach is required for biosecurity to be meaningful to all stakeholders, particularly residents. The strategy is the result of inputs from a broad range of people, including biosecurity specialists, various local, state and Australian government agencies, and local communities. Development of the strategy was guided by the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Biosecurity Working Group and informed by the 2016 report, Biosecurity Risk Management in Torres Strait and the Northern Peninsula Area – Issues and Solutions.

The strategy complements the Queensland Biosecurity Strategy — Our Next Five Years 2018 – 2023, as well as more specific biosecurity plans developed within the region. Action plans will be developed by Biosecurity Queensland and other relevant partners to address priority areas identified in this strategy. Biosecurity Queensland is delivering its commitment to the strategy through routine service delivery, but also through the Far Northern Biosecurity Initiative which aims to boost capacity for and understanding of biosecurity in Cape York Peninsula and Torres Strait. The initiative has a total value of $1.7 million and will run for three years from 2019/20.
Biosecurity Emergency Preparedness and Response Project

The Biosecurity Preparedness and Response Project was delivered between 2016 and 2020 in response to key findings and recommendation of the Biosecurity Queensland Capability Review. In delivering the objectives of this project, Biosecurity Queensland has improved capability and capacity to respond to EPP and other biosecurity incidents. These items include:

- a dedicated fit-for-purpose State Coordination Centre (SCC) located in Brisbane
- a dedicated, trained, preparedness and response group; the Biosecurity Emergency Response Group (BERG). The BERG is Queensland’s core response team for biosecurity emergency incidents that can be rapidly deployed anywhere in Queensland to fill key roles and support the establishment and early management of State Coordination and Local Control Centres
- a dedicated emergency response SharePoint site that houses the Biosecurity Emergency Operations Manual (BEOM). The site contains documents, templates and links relating to biosecurity emergencies. This site has been developed to ensure response information can be located easily to support both “peace time” operations and during emergency responses. The information also provides staff with guidance in relation to training, knowledge and skill requirements for performing each role in a response
- a biosecurity network beyond existing network arrangements, which encapsulates relationships across DAF, whole of government and industry
- Lessons management framework and system to ensure continual improvement of biosecurity emergency management in Queensland
- Suite of emergency management training packages. Training delivered recently includes foundational training, function specific training, exercises including Exercise Border Bridge and industry specific training.

Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity Program

The Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity (PB&PI) Program, within Biosecurity Queensland, mitigates the risks and impacts to the economy, the environment, social amenity and human health that are associated with plant pests and diseases as well as product quality and safety. The PB&PI program is underpinned by consistent and strategic communications and engagement with relevant stakeholders.

The strategic objectives of the PB&PI Program are to:

- protect Queensland from plant pests and diseases
- maintain and facilitate trade and market access by managing agricultural chemical use and food contaminants.

There are seven key areas within the PB&PI program that deliver on the specific plant biosecurity objectives relevant to the Deed.

Area 1 – Risk Assessment and Scientific Advice

The Risk Assessment and Scientific Advice sub-program supports effective management of plant biosecurity threats to Queensland by providing risk assessment skills and high level scientific advice and information for plant biosecurity activities, including prevention, planning and preparedness, surveillance, response, control and containment, ongoing management and market access.

The Risk Assessment and Scientific Advice sub-program has three major activity areas as described below.

Risk Assessment and Scientific Advice

- Provide scientific advice to support plant biosecurity risk management and decision making
- Conduct thorough pest risk assessments for plant biosecurity threats
- Coordinate and provide the departmental responses to pest risk analyses (PRA) and biosecurity import risk analyses (BIRA)
- In support of the Australian Government's White Papers on Agricultural Competitiveness and Developing Northern Australia (i) contribute to the development of a framework for assessing
plant biosecurity risks and evaluating plant pest and disease pathways in northern Australia and (ii) establish nationally agreed host lists and pathway risk assessments for the top 42 National Priority Plant Pests (NPPP)

- Represent Queensland and be actively involved in the initiatives of the National Community of Practice for Pest Risk Analysis (CoPPRA) to facilitate the development of a national approach to plant pest risk analysis
- Support the development of a framework for collaborative planning and decision making between government, industry and other stakeholders to enable a partnership approach and shared responsibility in plant biosecurity risk management.
- Develop and implement decision support tools and processes for a risk-based approach to service delivery, including formal risk assessment processes.

**Research Coordination and Partnerships**

- Facilitate a coordinated approach to plant biosecurity research, development and extension (RD&E) in Queensland.
- Develop strategic partnerships amongst stakeholders to ensure that Queensland’s plant biosecurity priorities are addressed.
- Contribute to specific plant biosecurity RD&E activities, initiatives and strategies, and represent Queensland’s plant biosecurity interests.

**Biosecurity Planning and Partnerships**

- Contribute to the development and review of all industry and environmental biosecurity plans relevant to Queensland, upon request by Plant Health Australia.
- Deliver the Queensland component of the National Grains Farm Biosecurity Program, by providing grain growers and industry stakeholders with practical and expert assistance and training for improved biosecurity practice.
- Deliver the Queensland component of the National Bee Biosecurity Program, including implementing agreed elements of the Australian Honey Bee Industry Biosecurity Code of Practice and providing advice on best management practices to manage pests and diseases.

**Area 2 – Incident Response and Preparedness**

The purpose of the Incident Response and Preparedness sub-program is to prepare for and respond to EPP Incidents, minimising their impact on industry productivity and market access – thereby contributing to the Queensland Government objective of providing leadership of Queensland’s biosecurity responses. The Incident Response and Preparedness sub-program has four major activity areas as described below. This sub-program also provides support to the Biosecurity Emergency Preparedness and Response Project.

**Incident Response**

The purpose of the Incident response activity is to ensure appropriate responses to plant pest incidents through involvement in the national biosecurity framework, through Plant Health Committee and the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (EPP), to manage and reduce the severity of impact of EPP. Within Queensland, the activities involve investigating reports of suspected EPP, providing advice on the status of EPP species and responding to all suspected and confirmed EPP.

**Preparedness**

The purpose of the preparedness activity is to enhance the preparedness and response capacity of government and industry in the event of an EPP Incident in Queensland. This project facilitates the development of a planned, agreed and consistent preparedness framework for EPP Incidents, with principles and specifications (e.g. risk identification and management systems) that can be incorporated in government, industry and individual level plans.

The project engages with plant industry and other government organisations to effectively mitigate biosecurity risks through shared responsibility and sound risk management principles. It also aims to ensure an effective response capability for plant pest Incidents to reduce the risk and impacts of biosecurity incidents and emergencies on Queensland’s plant industries. Biosecurity Queensland maintains a core of staff that is trained and capable in dealing with incursion responses in accordance with PLANTPLAN.
Exotic Fruit Fly in Torres Strait Eradication Program

The purpose of the Exotic Fruit Flies in Torres Strait Eradication Program is to protect Australian plant industries from the threat of exotic fruit fly which annually enter Torres Strait. Preventing the establishment of exotic fruit fly species on the Queensland mainland ensures that Queensland trade status is protected and the costly impacts of the pests on horticultural production are prevented.

The project is delivered according to a nationally agreed Response Plan that is funded by all states and territories and relevant industries through national cost sharing arrangements under the EPPRD. The program is delivered jointly by Biosecurity Queensland and the Department of Agriculture through its Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy.

National Varroa Mite Eradication Program

The purpose of the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program (NVMEP) is to eradicate the exotic bee pest *Varroa jacobsoni* from Queensland. It was established to eradicate an incursion of varroa mites (*Varroa jacobsoni*) in Townsville in 2016, but was extended in 2019 due to another unrelated incursion of varroa mites in that city.

On 1 July 2020, the National Management Group agreed that the 2016 Incident of varroa mites in Townsville has been successfully eradicated by Biosecurity Queensland.

As part of the ongoing surveillance program being delivered by the NVMEP in response to the 2019 Incident, an Asian honey bee (*Apis cerana*, AHB) nest infested with varroa mites was detected near the port area in Townsville on 28 April 2020. Genetic testing showed that the AHB are not related to any other AHB previously detected in Australia.

This detection was a trigger for the review of the *Response Plan for the Eradication of Varroa jacobsoni from Queensland 2019 version 1.0* (‘the Response Plan’) which is guiding the NVMEP.

The Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP) has considered the 2020 Incident and agreed that the Incident is technically feasible and cost beneficial to eradicate; it was proposed that the Response Plan for the 2019 Incident be modified to include the 2020 Incident.

The CCEPP agreed that the modified Response Plan should include heightened field surveillance, increased laboratory activities and additional engagement resources to promote community reporting, to provide confidence in declaring area freedom. The plan proposes that both Incidents will be eradicated within the same Indicative Budget and timeframe; concluding on 30 April 2021. At time of writing, the revised Response Plan is pending approval by the National Management Group.

Area 3 – Surveillance, Control and Containment

The Surveillance, Control and Containment sub-program has three major activity areas as described below.

Surveillance Systems

The purpose of the surveillance systems project is to implement surveillance that provides evidence to support claims about Queensland’s plant health status. Surveillance aims to detect EPP prior to their establishment in production areas, delimit infestations of EPP and substantiate claims of area freedom to support market access for Queensland produce. The PB&PI program works with various other agencies to broaden the area freedom and response surveillance network. The project also includes planning and prioritising surveillance activities, working with community and industry to capture passive surveillance data, implementation of training, assessment and auditing programs for surveillance, and maintaining information management systems for surveillance.

Control and Containment

The sub-program also seeks to implement a number of control and containment programs to minimise the impact of pests and diseases on industry and the community. The control and containment project seeks to protect agro-ecosystems, and timber in service in the built environment to minimise economic loss and damage to infrastructure. It also gains and retains access for Queensland’s plant industries to domestic markets with quarantine restrictions.
The main control and containment project activities are:

- plant pest control and containment through the application of regulatory tools to minimise their opportunity for spread
- managing emerging (not established) significant plant pests in Queensland, including banana bunchy top virus, black Sigatoka, Fiji leaf gall and papaya ringspot virus to reduce their impact on industry
- control and containment of pests of bees and pest bees
- manage emerging (not established) significant pests of bees and pest bees in Queensland
- Containment of pests within the Far Northern Biosecurity Zones 1 and 2 under Biosecurity Act 2014) and the management of emerging plant pests in far northern Queensland to reduce their spread to the main crop production areas in Queensland.
- managing West Indian drywood termite in Queensland through fumigation of infested buildings to reduce the long term impact of the pest
- Controlling and containing endemic pests of significance.

Panama TR4 Program

Panama disease tropical race 4 (Panama TR4), also known as fusarium wilt, was detected in Queensland for the first time on 3 March 2015 on a commercial banana farm in the Tully Valley. Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) commenced an emergency response on 4 March 2015. The Panama TR4 Program (the program) commenced on 1 September 2015 (signalling the end of the emergency response arrangements) and has been in effect since that time.

The Panama TR4 Program aims to minimise the spread of the disease and help the industry manage the potential impacts of the disease in the major production areas of Queensland.

The program was subject to an independent review in 2018. The review recommended the continuation of the program in its current form on a three to five-year horizon, progressing towards a 50:50 funding arrangement with the Australian Banana Growers’ Council (ABGC) by 2022/23. Further, it recommended the establishment of a collaborative agreement for shared funding and delivery of the Program. Two agreements; the Cost Sharing Deed and the Memorandum of Understanding have been signed by the newly established Panama TR4 Program Management Board, consisting of equal representation from industry and government. This board will oversee the delivery and governance of the program until 2023.

This new approach by the Queensland Government to harness the principals of shared responsibility with industry provides the longer-term framework and resources required to continue the response to Panama TR4.

Area 4 – Market Access

The Market Access sub-program has two major activity areas as described below.

Market Access Systems

The purpose of the Market Access Systems activity is to facilitate market access for plants and parts of plants into and out of Queensland while preventing the introduction and spread of endemic pests and diseases of quarantine concern, as well as containing and controlling endemic plant pests of significance. Activities under the project include:

- negotiating domestic market access conditions for Queensland produce
- planning and prioritising market access activities
- developing, implementing and maintaining up to date information management systems for certification and accreditation systems
- investigating new and innovative systems that support access for plants and plant produce to markets with quarantine restrictions

This project area seeks to retain/gain market access for Queensland’s plant and plant product industries and ensure product traceability requirements are met.
Certification and Accreditation Services

The purpose of the Certification and Accreditation Services activity is to provide a certification and accreditation service that verifies consignments of plants and products and associated carriers of biosecurity matter meet specified intra and interstate quarantine or market access requirements. In doing so, the project facilitates the movement of plants and plant products into and out of Queensland, and helps other jurisdictions prevent, control or remove plant pests and diseases. Activities include:

- Government Inspection and Certification Services (GIS)
- Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) Scheme accreditation
- Area and property freedom accreditation and certification
- Other statements or declarations relating to plant health required by another state or territory government or the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.

Area 5 – Laboratory and Diagnostic Services

The Laboratory and Diagnostic Services sub-program provides scientific, diagnostic testing, research support and sound decision making based on scientific advice to the PB&PI program, other Biosecurity Queensland programs and the wider DAF. The sub-program also influences R&D priorities to meet program needs to enhance laboratory diagnostic capacity at state and national levels.

The Laboratory and Diagnostic Services sub-program has two major activity areas as described below.

Plant Biosecurity Laboratory

The purpose of the Plant Biosecurity Laboratory is to provide plant health diagnostic and scientific support capability and capacity that underpins the policy and operational activities of PB&PI, by providing accurate and rapid diagnostics of plant pests and diseases together with robust scientific advice. A quality management system is currently being developed in the Plant Biosecurity Laboratory, including NATA accreditation of a range of plant diseases and pests. The project also provides access to nationally and internationally recognised reference collections of plant pathogens and insect pests. These collections enable reliable identification of plant pests and further provide information on the status of plant pests in Queensland.

Chemical Residue Laboratory

The purpose of the Chemical Residue Laboratory is to provide specialist chemical testing, formulation and advisory services to PB&PI, Animal Biosecurity and Welfare (AB&W) and Invasive Plants and Animals programs (IP&A), and to a range of external clients including the National Residue Survey, University of Queensland and private businesses. The project also provides assistance on high priority issues impacting on Queensland’s biosecurity and market access for the State’s agricultural produce.

Area 6 – Agvet Chemicals and Contaminants

The purpose of the Agvet Chemical and Contaminants area is to mitigate the risks and impacts to the economy, the environment, social amenity and human health that are associated with use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals and contaminants in agricultural production inputs across animal and plant industries.

This area also provides support to Incident responses by ensuring timely and appropriate access to chemical permits which may be used to control or eradicate emergency plant pests.

Area 7 – Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity Operations

The PB&PI Operations section is the state-wide operational arm of the program. Operations play a key role across the state in coordinating regional biosecurity planning, community engagement, compliance and the operational aspects of biosecurity prevention, preparedness, surveillance, response and ongoing management of the programs functions.
Operational staff in the PB&PI program are led by an Operations Manager who is supported by three Senior Principal Biosecurity Officers. Operational services are delivered out of 15 offices divided across three operational zones:

- North
- Central
- South and South East Queensland.

**Forest Health**

The Queensland Government has a dedicated forest health unit within the DAF Horticulture and Forestry Science Program that has expertise in entomology and pathology. As well as its responsibilities with endemic pests, the unit carries out biosecurity-related activities including:

- undertaking surveillance and monitoring programs for emergency plant pests and other exotic and endemic pests of biosecurity significance. Emergency plant pest monitoring is carried out in ports, plantations and other high-risk sites. Fee-for-service surveillance is provided for forest owners
- participation into the development of a long term National Forest Biosecurity High Risk Site surveillance program
- supporting containment programs for pests of restricted distribution including Sirex wasp (restricted distribution in Queensland), Ips (restricted to southern Queensland) and West Indian drywood termite (under long-term containment in Queensland)
- providing input to national policy and forest health activities through membership on the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) Forest Health and Biosecurity Sub-committee (FHaB). This group is comprised of both AFPA industry members and relevant technical experts from government and research agencies nationally
- input into the development of a National Forest Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy and Implementation plan
- supporting any responses to emergency plant pest incidents concerning the forest sector, in collaboration with Biosecurity Queensland
- participating in regional and international research projects that support biosecurity objectives and expand international biosecurity networks and improve detection and reporting of emerging biosecurity threats
- expanding forest health and biosecurity capacity through the development and delivery of training for Indigenous rangers and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service staff
- providing diagnostic services for forest pests and diseases.
NSW GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON PLANT BIOSECURITY
August 2020

OUTLINE

New South Wales is a signatory to the national Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity and the complementary response agreements that set out the State’s roles and responsibilities in the event of a biosecurity emergency.

The New South Wales Government is committed to plant biosecurity and its lead agencies have policies, procedures and management structures in place to minimise the impact of existing, invasive and emergency diseases, pests and weeds. By establishing and adopting rapid response mechanisms against incursions, New South Wales is well positioned to maintain trade and market access and protect the state’s resources, regional economies and the environment.

The New South Wales Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021 establishes that biosecurity is a shared responsibility. Objectives of the biosecurity strategy are to:

- communicate a clear vision and build support for a strong and integrated biosecurity system for New South Wales
- help achieve New South Wales government priorities for a strong economy and strengthened local environments and communities
- maintain and improve New South Wales capacity to respond to, manage and control biosecurity threats according to state and national obligations
- provide the foundation for all stakeholders to work together and make best use of knowledge and expertise across all groups
- provide guidance for prioritisation, decision making and actions at state level
- provide a framework for planning, monitoring and reporting of biosecurity programs
- provide direction for biosecurity research

The principal agency responsible for plant biosecurity in New South Wales is the Department of Primary Industries, Biosecurity and Food Safety branch. The Office of Environment and Heritage has responsibility for protected areas such as national parks and nature reserves, the National Herbarium and major botanic gardens, the regulation of protected plants and the protection of threatened plant species in New South Wales. The Local Land Services network is the mechanism established for regional delivery of agricultural production advice, biosecurity, natural resource management and emergency management across NSW.

The Department of Primary Industries, the Office of Environment and Heritage and Local Land Services achieve their biosecurity commitments through:

- corporate goals, divisional strategies and management structures
- established response mechanisms and well-trained staff
- structured inter- and intra-state quarantine measures and quality assurance systems
- plant pest information systems
- agricultural plant and forest health services and networks
- plant biosecurity research
- ISO and NATA accredited diagnostic laboratories
- curated scientific collections of plant pests and diseases
- targeted pest and disease monitoring and surveillance including forest health
- multi-pronged consultation with biosecurity stakeholders
- structured and informal collaboration with land managers, community members, industry representatives and regional specialists.
LEGISLATION
The current legislation which enables the New South Wales Government’s biosecurity activities and which is administered by the Department of Primary Industries is the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*.

Legislation is updated to reflect changes in pest, disease and weed status and has demonstrated appropriate powers to provide the necessary legal framework for responses to exotic incursions, containment and eradication of pests and diseases. In an emergency, immediate legislative response is provided by a biosecurity direction issued under the NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

The NSW Biosecurity Act supports a risk-based approach for responding to pests, diseases and weeds. It is designed to work in partnership to protect New South Wales industries, environments and communities from biosecurity threats and contribute to economic growth.

The Office of Environment and Heritage administers the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and the *Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust Act 1980*. The *National Parks and Wildlife Act* specifies pest control as one of a number of management objectives which are achieved through the preparation and implementation of plans of management for parks and reserves. The main purpose of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* is to maintain a healthy, productive and resilient environment for the greatest well-being of the community, now and into the future, consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development of the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991*. The Act provides for the listing of threatened species, populations and ecological communities and designation of key threatening processes. Management and mitigation measures are achieved through developing and implementing Threat Abatement Plans and Priorities Action Statements. The *Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust Act* identifies the maintenance and improvement of the National Herbarium and the conduct and dissemination of plant science as key objectives of the Trust.

BIOSECURITY CAPABILITY
A network of regional offices and operational, extension and research staff is in place across New South Wales. The resources of government agencies and Local Land Services are supplemented by staff in local government areas and linear infrastructure to provide front line awareness of biosecurity threats. The Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity unit within the Department of Primary Industries collaborates closely with the agriculture, diagnostics and research arms of the department to ensure biosecurity capability in reporting and data management, first response, surveillance, regulation and inspection services, diagnostics and technical support.

DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES
The Department of Primary Industries Plant Health Diagnostic Service at Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute (Menangle) and the Biosecurity Collections at Orange Agricultural Institute (Orange) offer quality assured services covering crop, amenity and native plant diagnostics, insect and mite identification, soil borne pathogen monitoring, imported seed associated pathogen testing as well as target pathogen or pest freedom testing for export commodities. The Office of Environment and Heritage maintains diagnostic services through laboratories at the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney and in collaboration with universities.

SURVEILLANCE
The Department of Primary Industries coordinates specific and general surveillance programs to assist in market access, provide assurance of area freedom from designated pests and to respond to incursions of exotic plant pests whether through delimiting or tracing activities. The Local Land Services network is a key enabler in gathering front line surveillance information across New South Wales.
General surveillance and reporting relies on the principle that biosecurity is a shared responsibility and utilises departmental officers, diagnostic laboratories, research centres, Local Land Services and community members.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
New South Wales is developing a new Biosecurity Case Management system. This system will manage both routine surveillance and emergency information. This system will integrate and share information providing dynamic representation of data in mapping and reporting, supporting real-time decision making. It will support data capture at the source (in the field) and data sharing with national systems. When operational, this system will address problems of manual manipulation of data, multiple data systems and processes, inconsistent standards of data capture, workflow, analysis and reporting.

The Office of Environment and Heritage is custodian of large volumes of vegetation data and mapping. The Atlas of NSW Wildlife is a database of flora and fauna sightings which can serve as a passive surveillance community interface for plant pests. The Biodiversity Survey System is a component of the Atlas. The Botanic Gardens Trust manages the National Herbarium, a comprehensive collection of living and preserved plant life in NSW, and PlantNet, a web-based science information portal from which a number of plant information web pages are accessed including WeedAlert and FloraOnline.

AWARENESS, COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
The Engagement and Industry Assistance unit of the Department of Primary Industries provides the interface between departmental officers and media outlets.

A Communications Plan for Plant Biosecurity has been developed to promote biosecurity practices across all plant-based industries, improve reporting rates for emergency plant pests and improve understanding of market access requirements for plant based commodities. Key tools are plant biosecurity pages on the department’s web site including fact sheets on biosecurity procedures and specific plant pests, opt-in newsletters and updates and accessible contact by the public through the biosecurity email.

The Department of Primary Industries is involved in publicity programs for domestic quarantine issues such as the movement of fruit and vegetables across state borders. The Travellers Guide to Interstate Quarantine covers risks and regulations related to intra-and inter-state movements of fruit, vegetables and other plant materials.

The Office of Environment and Heritage runs education programs aimed at conserving biodiversity and increasing understanding of natural ecosystems. The National Parks Discovery Program reaches over 200,000 people every year. This program conducts activities for schools and the broader community which focus on key conservation management themes including pest management. The Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust also runs educational programs primarily targeted to school students.
1. INTRODUCTION

The Victorian Government, through Agriculture Victoria, within the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR), has a comprehensive package of biosecurity policies, legislation and procedures aimed at maintaining Victoria’s freedom from pests and diseases. These pests and diseases could adversely affect trade within the public health and food safety markets leading to an impact on the economy and the wider environment.

DJPR maintains infrastructure and provides resources to identify and manage any serious plant or apiary pests and diseases. Victoria also has in place an emergency management framework that enables a whole-of-government response to outbreaks of Emergency Plant Pests (EPPs) that have evaded Australia’s quarantine barrier or which are newly emerged.

Plant and apiary biosecurity programs for pests and diseases are managed by the Biosecurity and Agriculture Services branch (BAS), primarily by the Chief Plant Health Officer Unit (CPHOU) and Plants Chemicals and Invasives Unit (PCI). This branch is responsible for the development of state plant and apiary biosecurity policy and legislation, and the delivery of systems, standards and services to Victoria’s food and agriculture sector as well as the natural and built environment. This covers plant and apiary based primary industries, amenity and native vegetation on both private and public land. DJPR adopts risk management principles to guide strategy development and for the planning, development and delivery of these services.

Biosecurity services and activities in the state and guided by the Agriculture Victoria Strategy. The Strategy seeks greater collaboration between government, industry and community in biosecurity and is articulated through six domains with the following being of greatest relevance to plant and apiary biosecurity: trade and market access, smarter regulation and risk management. Additional funding is being sought to implement the Strategy and build upon the considerable resources that have already been invested to provide ongoing biosecurity risk management for plant and apiary industries and the wider plant sector in Victoria.

Industries supported through DJPR include grains, horticulture, apiary, amenity and private plantation forestry, as well as natural and plantation forests and parks, including public land in Victoria.

The capability and capacity of Victoria to meet national obligations of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) are covered under the following functions.

2. POLICY

Agriculture Victoria is responsible for developing and implementing state and national biosecurity policies, which is done in collaboration with other government agencies, industries and other stakeholders within the national biosecurity framework, including commitment to national agreements such as the IGAB and the EPPRD. Victoria contributes to national policy development through the National Management Group, the National Bee Pest Steering Committee and the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP) process, and contributes membership and resources to Plant Health Committee and its associated working groups. Victoria also contributes internationally through the International Plant Protection Convention Technical Panel for Diagnostic Protocols and the Plant Health Quads Diagnostic Tools project.

Victoria is committed to providing policy and technical expertise to assist Plant Health Australia (PHA) with the review and implementation of the EPPRD and PLANTPLAN, as well as other
national strategies, through attendance at PHA general meetings and forums and providing policy and technical representation on national Consultative Committees, emergency pest and disease categorisation groups and scientific advisory panels convened to help manage incursions of EPPs.

The management of plant and apiary biosecurity issues under the EPPRD requires the effective and timely use of a suite of tools that includes legislative and non-legislative measures.

3. LEGISLATION

Plant biosecurity

The Plant Biosecurity Act 2010 (PBA) and associated subordinate legislation, provide a legislative framework for the effective management of plant pests and diseases. It aims to prevent the entry of pests and diseases into Victoria, manage and control the spread of pests and diseases within the State and maintain productivity and market access for plants and plant products. The PBA applies to plants and plant products, machinery, used packages and earth material. The management of noxious weeds however is supported by the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.

The PBA provides state-border security by controlling the importation into Victoria of plant materials, machinery, used packages and soil that may host pests and diseases.

To prevent pests and diseases from spreading and establishing within Victoria, the PBA provides for post-border security through powers to declare areas to contain, control or eradicate a pest or disease. It includes provisions that require persons to report a suspect EPP, and powers for inspectors to seize and destroy infected, suspect and at-risk materials.

To support border and post-border biosecurity requirements, the PBA provides for traceability of plant products via labelling, standards for used packaging, certification requirements for market access, co-regulation arrangements (compliance agreements and accreditation), sanctions and enforcement powers.

Apiary biosecurity

The Livestock Disease Control Act 1994 (the Act) and Livestock Disease Control Regulations 2017 (the Regulations) provide the legal basis for the monitoring and control of diseases of animals and bees in Victoria. The Act requires the suspicion of the presence of an exotic or notifiable bee pest or disease to be reported immediately.

The Regulations were amended on 12 June 2019 to incorporate the requirements of the Australian Honey Bee Industry Biosecurity Code of Practice. The Code provides a clear framework for all beekeepers to engage in best-practice biosecurity. Its purpose is to help improve the management of established pests and diseases, as well as increase preparedness and surveillance for exotic pests that threaten our honey bee industry, such as the Varroa mite. The Regulations will operate under the Act to provide requirements to protect Victorian livestock (including bees) from disease and to maintain and enhance domestic and international market access.

The Act and Regulations provide requirements, infringement offences and penalties relating to the testing, notification, and prevention of apiary pests and diseases, the identification and movement of bees, apiary products and equipment into Victoria. It also covers the seizure and disposal of apiary products and equipment. Registered beekeepers may be eligible to receive compensation if their bees and hives are destroyed or irradiated due to infection by the honey bee brood disease, American foulbrood.

In addition to the requirements of the Act and Regulations all Victorian beekeepers are required to comply with the Apiary Code of Practice 2011.
4. SCIENTIFIC AND DIAGNOSTIC CAPABILITY

DJPR maintains extensive scientific in-house expertise in plant pathology, plant bacteriology, plant virology, entomology, nematology, risk assessment, risk modelling and epidemiology. BAS can call upon staff from Agriculture Victoria Research to provide more specific capability and capacity as required.

Agriculture Victoria Research maintains an extensive state reference collection of insect pests and disease organisms, which are catalogued and linked to the Australian Plant Pest Database. DJPR provides resources to maintain and develop the collection and for ongoing database development of the collection. This database provides the basis for pest status reports to support market access for Victorian produce.

Agriculture Victoria Research also operates the Crop Health Services (CHS) laboratory at AgriBio, Bundoora for the diagnosis of a range of endemic pests and diseases and EPPs. Limited plant pest and disease diagnoses are also carried out at some regional research institutes (e.g. Horsham Grains Innovation Park).

Additional services are sourced from CHS during incursions, including diagnostic support for surveillance programs. CHS will also facilitate surge capacity when required through the National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostic Network under the direction of SPHD.

5. PREVENTION

The movement of bees, apiary products, plants and plant products are regulated to protect plant and apiary-based sectors from pest and disease threats, which occur elsewhere in Australia or from overseas. Regulation is achieved through:

- Importation Orders, which set out specific quarantine conditions for plants and plant material, agricultural machinery and other vectors entering Victoria.
- Inspection of prescribed material on arrival in Victoria by DJPR inspectors or businesses accredited by DJPR under a Compliance Agreement.
- Implementing communication and awareness programs to alert commercial operators and the public to regulatory requirements and compliance monitoring patrols and roadblocks to target commercial operators and travellers moving into the state or pest free areas within the state.
- Conducting ad hoc inspections on prescribed material at high risk premises, distribution centres and wholesaler and retail markets.

6. PREPAREDNESS

Victoria maintains the capability to plan and prepare for incidents and allow for response requirements outlined in PLANTPLAN.

Staff participate in the development and review of industry-specific biosecurity plans and from these BAS develops and reviews the state list of priority plant pests, and undertakes Pest Risk Assessments. BAS also maintains a documented Generic Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan and several specific contingency plans for plant and apiary high priority pests which are reviewed periodically.

Agriculture Victoria runs and participates in simulation exercises as part of plant emergency preparedness training and uses these to review and document capability and capacity requirements under a state Model of Cover for high, intermediate and low-level emergency responses, as well as more long term project-based priority responses. DJPR has a range of staff who have experience responding to biological emergencies such as varroa, fruit flies, locusts and through deployment to other plant biosecurity (and animal disease) incidents.

BAS invests considerable resources into preparedness training and competency-based emergency response roles within the Biosecurity Incident Management System (BIMS) structure. Training is developed and delivered as a biosecurity group to ensure staff skills can
be applied across both plant and animal incursion responses under PLANTPLAN and AUSVETPLAN. Specific plant pest response training is also delivered where required (e.g. plant health surveillance and sampling). Where appropriate, assessments are developed to meet national competencies set by Biosecurity Emergency Response Training Australia (BERTA). BAS partners with PHA in the development and delivery of training, especially for national roles such as industry liaison and national exercises.

Preparedness work is undertaken to prepare for a range of specific risks, focusing on how Victoria would respond to detections of these pests and diseases.

7. SURVEILLANCE

BAS staff plan and conduct a suite of surveillance activities according to annual surveillance plans, in order to provide evidence that enables early detection and response to EPPs, validates pest-free status for market access purposes, and provides support for imposition of import restrictions.

Plant and apiary pest and disease surveillance programs include:

- The National Bee Pest Surveillance Program, which utilises 22 sentinel hives and 48 swarm catch boxes to monitor for varroa, tracheal and tropilaelaps mites, and undertakes sweep netting for exotic bees (*Apis dorsata*, *A. florea*, *A. cerana*).
- Sugar shake program, where 328 Victorian beekeepers test their hives three times a year to monitor for varroa mites.
- Monitoring of permanent trapping networks in production regions for quarantine pests such as Queensland and Mediterranean fruit fly.
- Surveys of crops and forest plantations for EPPs, and other regulated pests and diseases such as phylloxera and potato cyst nematode (PCN).
- Delivery of the National Plant Health Surveillance (NPHS) program targeting up to 40 priority pests (exotics fruit flies, timber pests, BMSB and others) in high risk entry and establishment points.
- General surveillance across all plant sectors including commercial forestry.
- Presence or absence surveys in response to reports of incursions of EPPs in other states and where Victoria is required to justify restrictions based on area freedom.
- Collaboration with AVR on a three-year project to provide surveillance for Tomato potato psyllid and Asian citrus psyllid in peri-urban pathways in Melbourne.
- Delivery of the CropSafe program to develop area freedom statements for exotic pests and diseases and enhance market access in the Victorian grains industry.
- Engagement with botanic gardens, community gardens and urban gardeners through the Urban Plant Health Network aimed at improving reporting of suspect exotic pests through MyPestGuide™.
- Collaboration with Citrus Australia to pilot an industry led national Asian citrus psyllid surveillance program.

CHS provides enhanced general surveillance to Victorian and Australian plant industries with over 20,000 samples per year analysed. Any new pest and pathogen identifications are immediately reported to the CHPO for further investigation. Specimens are added into the state’s reference collections and this data contributes to APPD and supports area freedom statements for exotic pests and pathogens to enhance market access.

Surveillance records are stored in BioWEB, which is connected to AUPestCheck™ to enable national surveillance data sharing.

8. AWARENESS AND REPORTING

DJPR expends considerable resources in communication to increase awareness of regulatory and technical requirements at the industry and community level.

This includes facilitating reporting of plant and apiary EPPs using the national Freecall 1800 telephone number, DJPR’s Customer Service Centre, a dedicated email service (plant.protection@agriculture.vic.gov.au), MyPestGuide™ reports, via a web-based reporting
form and through a network of plant and apiary biosecurity officers around Victoria. For the wider community, DJPR encourages reporting using its website and through distribution of printed information, media releases and other educational material for a range of pests and diseases, including fruit flies and grape phylloxera.

Victoria’s early engagement with the MyPestGuide™ reporting system is enabling Victoria to assess and inform the potential future form and functioning of the PHC-proposed national biosecurity reporting tool.

A person, who knows or has reason to suspect that an exotic plant or apiary pest or disease is present is required to report that fact without delay by the quickest means of communication available. Reporting of suspect plant or apiary EPPs by industry is specifically encouraged through projects promoting biosecurity in the apiary, grains and viticulture industries and by targeted industry updates and pest alerts to affected industries, including nurseries. In the grains industry, DJPR participates in the PHA Grains Farm Biosecurity Program and DJPR’s CropSafe project facilitates early detection and reporting of pests using a network of agronomists. CHS also has a commitment to report all new records to the state CPHO.

In preparation for an EPP detection in Victoria, DJPR has a generic communication plan and specialist support to maximise its effectiveness to facilitate community and/or industry awareness and to foster additional reporting.

9. BIOSECURITY RESEARCH

DJPR supports a biosecurity research program, which is largely delivered by Agriculture Victoria Research to:

- Develop rapid diagnostic tests for the detection of endemic pests and diseases and high priority EPPs (e.g. *Xylella fastidiosa*).
- Develop surveillance tools and protocols (e.g. point-of-care diagnostics; metabarcoding) for improving early detection and validation of pest and disease freedom.
- Improve taxonomic clarification of pests and pathogens present in Victoria and Australia.
- Understand the biology and management of pests and diseases, such as PCN.
- Understand the impact of climate change on endemic and exotic pest and disease threats.
- Modelling of incursion pathways of pests and diseases into Australia.
- Develop improved detection and diagnosis of fruit fly(ies).

10. IT MANAGEMENT

BAS has developed and proven a web-based incident management application, Bioweb/MAX2, which has features such as client information, surveillance and sample information capture and mapping. Bioweb/MAX2 can be used for recording trace information, logging phone enquiries, property status, visits and treatments. Bioweb has proven to be flexible in responses to plant pest emergencies can be developed rapidly. Bioweb is also compatible with the AgLIMS system that has been developed and used by CHS to manage diagnostics data associated with field samples.

The long-term aim is to build on the current animal health Property Identification Code system and compile property identification registers and databases, which will enable more effective tracing systems for the key plant industries. BAS has migrated “Flybase” to the Bioweb application and is in the process of upgrading Bioweb to enable electronic issuing of Plant Health Certificates.

DJPR has made a commitment to develop systems to enable Bioweb to interface with the national systems to allow collation of surveillance and response information nationally.

The new BeeMAX beekeeper registration and surveillance database was launched on 4 November 2019. This new system is a significant development to facilitate the sharing of
information between more than 10,000 Victorian beekeepers and DJPR and will strengthen Victoria's honey bee biosecurity and response capability. The system complements the new beekeeper regulations that came into effect on 12 June 2019 that adopted the requirements of Australian Honey Bee Industry Biosecurity Code of Practice.

11. RESPONSE

The Victorian Government through DJPR has high level emergency management capability to deal with EPPs. The response framework is based on the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) structure, which is similar to BIMS. Each year BAS, through the Consultative Committee and National Management Group framework, deals with or assists other jurisdictions to deal with a range of exotic and emergency plant and apiary pest detections and responses. BAS can call upon assistance from other divisions within DJPR and other state government agencies to respond to emergencies.

Victoria’s ability to effectively respond in a timely manner to a range of EPPs is enabled by a high level of preparedness, capability and capacity, the key elements of which include:

- Detailed pre-agreed response plans to enable an immediate, coordinated response to several serious plant and apiary pests and diseases.
- Early warning surveillance and reporting systems to detect and respond promptly to plant and apiary pest and disease incursions.
- A legislative framework which supports control measures to detect, eradicate or contain an exotic incursion.
- Emergency management arrangements that can ensure a multi-agency response involving all relevant agencies (if necessary, the State Emergency Service, police and local government).
- Diagnostic services available within DJPR (e.g. CHS) to support response programs.
- Key operational plant and apiary health staff participation in emergency response training and simulations under the BIMS or AIIMS framework.
- Availability of staff, who have previous experience in handling a range of biological emergency responses such as locusts, giant pine scale and chestnut blight.
- Ongoing review and upgrade of information technology, processes and mapping systems, which complement national programs and provide readily available data to support the response.

12. MANAGEMENT OF ESTABLISHED PLANT AND APIARY PEST AND DISEASES, AND APIARY PEST CONTROL PROGRAMS IN VICTORIA

DJPR has a range of mechanisms to effectively deal with the containment and management of regulated plant and apiary pests and diseases which are under national management through the delivery of exclusion or containment programs, whether on private or public lands. These include regulatory support, protocols and major programs to control and manage fruit fly species of economic concern, phylloxera, green snail, PCN and American foulbrood.

Owners or occupiers of land may be required to manage or otherwise control or destroy plants, including feral or neglected plants, affected by pests and diseases. Similarly, the LDC Act requires beekeepers to destroy or sterilise affected bee colonies, apiary products (e.g. honey, wax, pollen etc.) and equipment affected by prescribed apiary pests and diseases. Such powers are exercised in accordance with well documented policies and procedures. DJPR is proactive in maintaining industry awareness and compliance with infested land management in the State and provides legislative support to ensure compliance where required.

13. MARKET ACCESS AND DOMESTIC QUARANTINE

Victoria’s delivers an effective, risk based domestic quarantine and market program in a manner consistent with the IGAB and Australia’s obligations under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). This includes but not limited to, plant health certification programs delivered in support of market access and productivity outcomes for the state.
Plant health certification programs are enacted as a risk management measure for pests or diseases which are considered to be a significant risk to Victoria’s biosecurity status. This includes risks associated with trade, which is addressed through the provision of certification programs, or productivity which is addressed through provision of exclusion and containment programs.

If a pest or a disease is known to be present in Victoria, whether declared or exotic, a Plant Health Certificate or Plant Health Assurance Certificate can be used to demonstrate a consignment is meeting quarantine requirement specified by another state, before movement into that state.

14. KEY STATE CONTACTS
PHA Representatives – Dr Rosa Crnov (03 9217 4122) and Dr Stephen Dibley (03 8377 4680)
Chief Plant Health Manager – Dr Rosa Crnov (03 9217 4122)
Deputy Chief Plant Health Manager – Dr Stephen Dibley (03 8377 4680)
PLANTPLAN Representatives - Dr Rosa Crnov (03 9217 4122) and Dr Stephen Dibley (03 8377 4680)
Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access representative – Mr Gary D’Arcy (03 9217 4175)
Subcommittee on Plant Health Diagnostics – Prof Brendan Rodoni (03 9032 7319) and Dr Jacqueline Edwards (03 9032 7330)
Forest Health – Mr David Smith (03 5924 2624)
Subcommittee on National Plant Health Surveillance – Dr Tim Hurst (03 8377 4548)

15. SUMMARY STATEMENT
Victoria, as a signatory to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed, is committed to a whole-of-government approach to maintain base level capability for threat identification, prevention and detection, capacity and infrastructure to efficiently and effectively respond and manage incursions of Emergency Plant and Apiary Pests and meet its legal and operational obligations according to the requirements, processes and procedures outlined in the EPPRD and PLANTPLAN.

Signed: Rosa Crnov, Chief Plant Health Officer
Date: 31/07/2020
Statement on Plant Biosecurity Policies and Programs – South Australia

July 2020
1. INTRODUCTION

The South Australian Government maintains and provides infrastructure and resources to prevent, detect, manage and respond to declared plant pests and diseases. The State has in place an emergency management framework that ensures an effective whole-of-government response to outbreaks of emergency plant pests that have evaded Australia’s quarantine barrier or are newly emerged.

Biosecurity programs are underpinned by legislation that provides an appropriate range of specific and general legislative measures and powers to deal with prevention, monitoring, control and eradication of emergency/declared plant pests, and the management of declared plants.

The Government, through Biosecurity SA, a Division within Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA), has in place comprehensive biosecurity policies, programs and procedures aimed at maintaining South Australia’s freedom from pests that could adversely impact trade, market access, public health and food safety, the rural economy and the environment.

Plant biosecurity programs for emergency plant pests within South Australia are the responsibility of Biosecurity SA. This Division has primary responsibility for the development and implementation of plant health policy within the State, contribution to national plant health policy development, contribution to the national response processes against emergency plant pests and administrating the Plant Health Act 2009.

The Division’s policies and operational activities are aimed at supporting a sustainable and internationally competitive South Australian plant and plant products industry and facilitating market access through minimising the impact of emergency plant pests.

Technical and scientific advice and diagnostic capability is provided by the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI), a Division of PIRSA.

In South Australia, the Landscape South Australia 2019 (Landscape Act) establishes the legislative framework for the management of the State’s landscapes and natural resources in, including for the prevention or control of impacts caused by pest species of plants that may have an adverse impact on the environment, primary production or the community. The regional Landscape Boards have responsibility for the management of pest plants (weeds) declared under the Landscape Act within their regions and have the power to enforce control of some declared plants on private and public property in accordance with the requirements of the Landscape Act and their regional plans. The Landscape Act establishes that owners of land are responsible for dealing with declared plants on their land.

Within Biosecurity SA, the Invasive Species Unit coordinates statewide programs in response to incursions and management of existing declared plants to minimise their impacts on the environment, primary industries, and the community. The group guides and conducts research on control techniques, produces and promotes extension and awareness materials, develops and maintains state policies to support regulatory activities, contributes to national weed policy development and has input into the State Landscape Strategy, which outlines the policies and priorities for weed management in South Australia.
The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) is responsible for the administration of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 and supports the Minister and Landscape boards to administer the Landscape Act. DEW has a primary role in biodiversity conservation, environment policy and planning, and environmental sustainability. This includes delivery of the Landscape Strategy.

DEW manages most of the State’s public land – land held in the conservation reserve system, botanic gardens and as unalienated crown lands. It supports the administration of private land through the Landscape Act. DEW is a major custodian of information and knowledge about the State’s environment; collating data collected from biological surveys of the vegetation of South Australia. Through the State Herbarium, DEW is the major provider of data, information and identification of plants, macrophytes, algae and fungi.

ForestrySA has responsibility for managing the State’s plantation forestry in the Mount Lofty Ranges. It responds to emergency plant pests affecting these forests in conjunction with Biosecurity SA. While ForestrySA has some involvement with forest biosecurity at the national level, PIRSA represents South Australia on any national forestry matters within the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) framework.

2. EMERGENCY PLANT PESTS, DISEASES AND WEEDS - PREVENTION AND SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMS

Prevention

Fruit flies are key pests from a market access perspective. Prevention activities include quarantine stations at strategic border entry points, signage and host produce disposal pits at other border entry points, early detection trapping, a fruit fly reporting and advisory hotline and the provision of an annual SA community awareness and public relations program.

The SA Fruit Fly Standing Committee was established in 2002 to provide a forum for dialogue between Biosecurity SA and key stakeholders on fruit fly activities across the State. The Committee includes representatives of PIRSA media and communications, Biosecurity SA, the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, horticultural industries, local government and the community. The Riverland Fruit Fly Committee provides a similar forum for stakeholders of the Riverland Pest Free Area.

South Australia has established a network of signs and disposal bins for travellers entering the State and the Riverland production area, maintains permanent roadblock sites on four key roads entering the State and also operates random roadblocks on other key entry points. Biosecurity SA maintains signage and disposal bins at the State’s interstate rail and bus terminals. All air-bridges at the Adelaide Airport are also signposted. South Australia has a zero tolerance policy to introduction of fruit fly host material into the state.

Imports of horticultural produce into South Australia are subject to an import verification process to minimise the potential for introduction of declared plant pests. The Plant Health Act 2009 provides for effective plant biosecurity arrangements, establishing requirements for importers of plant and plant material which are risk based, as well as providing importers with a more flexible and cost effective system. All importers of plant and plant material are required to be registered.
The former *Phylloxera Act 1899* established the Phylloxera and Grape Industry Board of South Australia, a statutory authority dedicated to the protection of vineyards from disease, particularly phylloxera. The Phylloxera Board – now trading as Vinehealth Australia (‘Vinehealth’) – has provided 120 years of unbroken service. This long dedication to biosecurity by South Australian grape-growers and industry leaders is a shining light of industry collaboration. The name change in 2015 was in recognition of the increasingly complex and rapidly evolving biosecurity landscape. Vinehealth cannot fulfil its mandate of protecting South Australian vineyards from pests and diseases without working collaboratively with other States and Territories across Australia.

Vinehealth now administers the *Phylloxera and Grape Industry Act 1995*. A legislative requirement of the Act is for Vinehealth to maintain a register of persons who own vineyards comprising 0.5 hectares or more of planted vines. Under the Act, Vinehealth may require a registered person, a winemaker or a distiller to pay a contribution towards the costs incurred, or to be incurred, by Vinehealth in carrying out its primary functions under this Act. The Act provides Vinehealth with the charter to address, in addition to phylloxera, all other biosecurity threats faced by the wine and grape industries. Therefore, Vinehealth’s core aim in South Australia is to drive biosecurity as a shared responsibility for the wine and grape industries, to ensure the State’s vineyards are profitable and productive into the future.

Through Vinehealth, South Australian vineyard owners invest in biosecurity training and awareness, policy and procedures, research and development priority setting, and preparedness, prevention and response activities, to the benefit of the state and national wine industry.

SARDI has established a Compliance Agreement with the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for the operations of the post-entry plant quarantine facilities at the Plant Research Centre.

SARDI has also established a memorandum of understanding with the University of Adelaide that establishes a Quarantine Manager position at the Waite Precinct. This officer oversees the operational needs of quarantine management for the Campus, acts as the day-to-day contact for all quarantine matters, and provides leadership and guidance on quarantine matters to the researchers to ensure coordination and legislative compliance of plant quarantine activities across the Precinct. Such activities relate to imported plant materials, restricted seed, soils and other biological materials.

Forestry SA has developed best practice guidelines for industry to minimise the risk of entry and spread of pests and diseases when obtaining forest planting stock for use within South Australia. Specific import requirements are prescribed under the *Plant Health Act 2009*.

Declared plant policies contain provisions prohibiting the entry to South Australia, and road transport within the state, of declared plants and their propagules. Awareness activities are delivered by staff from each of the eight landscape and Green Adelaide, regions, and from the Invasive Species Unit. This is supported by a list of Alert Weeds that are not yet established in South Australia, but have been assessed as presenting an elevated risk of establishment and subsequent impact.
Surveillance Programs

Early detection is essential to ensure that the impacts of outbreaks of emergency plant pests and pest plants (weeds) are minimised.

Biosecurity SA maintains a significant fruit fly monitoring program across the State. Queensland fruit fly and Mediterranean fruit fly are considered as key pests of concern for market access both nationally and internationally. Fruit fly trapping grids are maintained in the Riverland, the Northern Adelaide Plains and Mount Lofty Ranges production areas, metropolitan Adelaide, the Iron Triangle (Pt Augusta), Pt Lincoln, Ceduna and at Mypolonga. The current monitoring program includes traps that are capable of detecting a range of exotic fruit fly species.

PIRSA (Biosecurity SA) cooperates with the Commonwealth (through the Office of the Chief Plant Protection Officer) as part of the National Plant Health Surveillance Program (NPHSP).

PIRSA maintains a capacity to monitor and respond to locust activity across key parts of the State and contributes financially to the Australian Plague Locust Commission (APLC). The APLC is a small rapid response organisation dedicated to locust surveillance, forecasting, control and research. Detections of significant locust activity by APLC will trigger the State’s Control Plan.

Vinehealth Australia undertakes aerial land capture of different sections of the State on an annual basis as part of a phylloxera surveillance program. Suspect low vigour patches of vines identified through the aerial imagery are then ground-truthed. This surveillance contributes towards demonstrating South Australia’s freedom from grape phylloxera across the vineyard regions of the State. In collaboration with SARDI, the University of Adelaide, the Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre, the Victorian Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Wine Australia, Vinehealth Australia has led a project to validate the use of a DNA-based detection technique and field sampling strategy for sensitive, accurate and cost effective detection of phylloxera.

SARDI provides diagnosis of plant diseases and pests to clients on a fee for service basis. SARDI maintains an extensive arthropod and nematode reference collection. Strong links exist between the SARDI diagnostic teams (Plant Health and Entomology) and the Biosecurity SA plant health program to ensure timely reporting and identification of suspect emergency plant pests and diseases. SARDI is undertaking research on new tools and technologies for cost-effective surveillance.

Forestry SA conducts annual forest health surveys of the government plantation estate with aerial surveillance and follow-up ground inspection of suspect areas.

DEW regional staff, in particular from the eight Landscape Boards, are responsible for surveillance, monitoring and enforcement in relation to declared plants, with support and advice from the Invasive Species Unit within PIRSA. This is implemented through passive surveillance, with active surveillance programs as deemed necessary.
3. EMERGENCY PLANT PESTS, DISEASES AND WEEDS - PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROGRAMS

Biosecurity SA provides a key capability for both the management and operational response to detections of emergency plant pests within the State. The emergency response capability has been enhanced, in accordance with Schedule 7 of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity (IGAB), through the establishment and maintenance of a Biosecurity SA First Response Team. This team has been established to lead and manage biosecurity emergency responses.

Biosecurity SA also contributes to the national preparedness and response processes via Plant Health Committee (PHC), the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP), the Consultative Committee on Exotic Plant Incursions (CCEPI), and the Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access (SDQMA), the Sub-Committee on National Plant Health Surveillance (SNPHS) and the Subcommittee on Plant Health Diagnostics (SPHD). The PIRSA Chief Executive is a member of the National Management Group (NMG), the decision making body under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

Biosecurity SA has been and will continue to be involved in the Plant Health Australia National Biosecurity Planning processes, pest categorisation and other Deed issue groups.

Biosecurity SA is also a participant in the National Grains Biosecurity Initiative, coordinated by Plant Health Australia.

PIRSA further contributes to the national program through membership on Plant Health Australia, the National Biosecurity Committee (NBC) and the Agricultural Senior Officials Committee (AGSOC).

The Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) and PLANTPLAN provide the basis of an agreed response process following the detection of an Emergency Plant Pest (EPP) or a suspect EPP within the State.

The Biosecurity SA - Emergency Management Unit maintains up to date emergency response plans for plant health in line with the national EPPRD requirements and PLANTPLAN. These plans are reviewed annually and updated as necessary. A range of training activities, both of a general and a specific nature, are provided for key potential respondents within the State including industry personnel.

South Australia has built a fit for purpose Sterile Insect Technology (SIT) facility in Port Augusta to produce sterile Queensland Fruit Fly (Q-fly). This is part of the SITplus consortium, a national partnership between PIRSA/SARDI, Horticulture Innovation Ltd, with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Health and Biosecurity Flagship, Plant and Food New Zealand, SARDI, Macquarie University, the NSW Department of Primary Industries, Agriculture Victoria and the Government of Tasmania.

SARDI provides a high level technical and scientific capability in the areas of horticultural and field crop pathology and entomology. This capability provides advice, diagnostic support and diagnostic test development e.g. DNA based tests, as well as a unique high throughput testing capability for soil.
SARDI provides scientific input into international (International Plant Protection Convention) and national (Plant Health Australia, Biosecurity Australia) policies and plans, including industry Biosecurity Plans, Import Risk Assessments, Risk analysis for release of Biological Control Agents, Disease and Pest Threat Categorisations, the EPPRD and PLANTPLAN. SARDI provides input as needed on Consultative Committees on Emergency Plant Pests, including the associated Scientific Advisory Panels.

SARDI holds the South Australian plant pest databases. These records contribute to the national contingency planning process and underpin scientific advice for phytosanitary certification for market access.

SARDI also provides training, on a needs basis, for survey and response personnel.

The Invasive Species Unit in Biosecurity SA works closely with the Landscape Boards and DEW to manage declared plants across the State. The Landscape Act empowers the Minister for Environment and Water to declare plants (agricultural and environmental weeds) under sections of the Act which prohibit sale, road transport or entry to SA; allow for enforced control or destruction; or require notification of infestations. Each declared plant has a state-level policy adopted by the Minister aligning with regional management plans adopted by each Landscape Board. A subset of 25 declared plants that are not yet established in SA are designated as Alert Weeds to direct passive surveillance and preparedness activities.

The Invasive Species Unit in Biosecurity SA provides extension to DEW officers on identification and management of declared weeds, works with the Weeds Botanist at the State Herbarium to monitor incursions and the distribution of weedy plants and forwards reports of notifiable weed infestations.

This Unit (and DEW) also provides state representation on the national Environment and Invasives Committee (EIC).

The main forest health group in SA is the Forest Research and Health Subcommittee of the Green Triangle Regional Plantations Committee (GTRPC).

4. LEGISLATION

The Plant Health Act 2009 enables the State to rapidly respond to the detection of emergency plant pests. Key elements of the Act necessary to minimise the risk of the spread of declared plant pests include provision for the appointment of inspectors and for powers of entry, inspection, movement control, treatment application, emergency actions, the declaration of plant pests or diseases to be “pests” under the Act, the establishment of quarantine areas, and the adoption of codes and standards.

The legislation also allows for the establishment of an import verification compliance system that is designed to ensure compliance with national emergency plant pest response requirements, including potential payment of owner reimbursement costs (ORC’s).

The Landscape South Australia Act 2019 provides the legal framework for implementation of the Government’s declared plant management policies.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Products (Control of Use) Act 2002 constrains the use of chemical treatments to those approved by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) through registration or permit approval. Such approvals are...
based on consideration of risks to public health, occupational health and safety, food safety, the environment and trade.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL

The impact of declared plants on the environment is managed by eight regional Landscape Boards. These Boards were established under Landscape South Australia Act 2019.

The requirement for planning approval under the Development Act 1993, where establishment of a new crop represents a change in land use, may be used to control the location of olive groves and other crops that are considered to have weed potential.

No specific controls relate to feral / neglected / unmanaged plants and to plant pests and diseases generally unless they are covered by specific legislation i.e. are affected by a declared pest, or are a declared plant.

6. CONTACTS

Dr Ross Meffin

General Manager, Plant and Food Standards

Biosecurity SA

(Ph: 08 8429 0829; Ross.Meffin@sa.gov.au)

Nick Secomb

Manager, Plant Health Operations

Biosecurity SA

(Ph: 08 8429 0589; nick.secomb@sa.gov.au)
GOVERNMENT OF TASMANIA’S STATEMENT ON BIOSECURITY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS FOR TASMANIA IN RESPECT OF EMERGENCY PLANT PEST RESPONSES

Prepared by the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania, in accordance with the Government and Plant Industry Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed

July 2020

Biosecurity Tasmania
Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
GOVERNMENT OF TASMANIA’S STATEMENT ON BIOSECURITY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS FOR TASMANIA IN RESPECT OF EMERGENCY PLANT PEST RESPONSES

This statement of plant biosecurity policy and programs is provided in accordance with Schedule 15 of the Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in Respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Tasmanian Government through the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE), has biosecurity policies, legislation, procedures and programs aimed at protecting the State’s favourable biosecurity status. The strategic framework for all government biosecurity actions and decision-making processes is outlined in the Tasmanian Biosecurity Policy and the Tasmanian Biosecurity Strategy, which details policy implementation actions (www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity). The Strategy was publicly released for the first time by the Minister for Primary Industries and Water in February 2007 and was subsequently updated and re-released in March 2013. It is currently being reviewed by the recently formed Biosecurity Advisory Committee as an action under the recently proclaimed Biosecurity Act 2019.

The Tasmanian Government’s biosecurity policy objective is to “protect and enhance Tasmania’s biosecurity status for the benefit of Tasmania’s industries, environment and public well-being, health, amenity, and safety”. To achieve the policy objective the Tasmanian government has in place a system of pre-border requirements, border security via biosecurity operations, along with surveillance and response mechanisms for exotic pest, disease and weed incursions. Post-border initiatives, including the development of appropriate response plans for incursions, formal processes to address biosecurity communications with the Australian government and the community, and the facilitation of scientifically sound biosecurity policy, are all important to the Tasmanian Government. Each of these activities is underpinned by science and evidence based risk analysis, is consistent with domestic and international trade and other obligations, and promotes biosecurity as delivered by partnerships recognising shared responsibility.

Biosecurity matters of significance to Tasmania are the primary responsibility of Biosecurity Tasmania that operates as a Division within DPIPWE Tasmania. Biosecurity Tasmania has responsibility for broad policy directions in relation to biosecurity. It undertakes this work on behalf of the Tasmanian Government.

The Tasmanian Government is responsible for infrastructure resources to prevent, detect, respond to, and manage serious plant pests and diseases\(^\text{10}\). Tasmania’s biosecurity

\(^{10}\) The Deed defines “plant pests” to include any species, biotype or strain of invertebrate pest or pathogen injurious to plants or plant health provided that it is discrete, identifiable and genetically stable, but excludes Genetically Modified Organisms. The Tasmanian legislation refers to plant pests and diseases separately. The plant pests listed under the Plant Quarantine Act 1997 include invertebrate pests, but also includes many
emergency preparedness system is generic and has been developed to address animal health emergencies, plant pest and disease biosecurity emergencies, and threats to the environment. Key DPIPWE personnel are trained to ensure that, if there is a plant biosecurity emergency in Tasmania, a response can be undertaken.

By implementing specific biosecurity policy, Tasmania has capitalised on its island status to manage the risk of entry of plant pests and diseases. As an island, the natural movement of plant pests and diseases into the State is limited. The limited number of commercial ports helps ensure that entry of product that may carry plant pests and diseases can be monitored and supervised. In recent years, tourism has increased substantially increasing ferry services and air travel into the State, thereby increasing the importance of biosecurity measures at ports of entry.

Plant biosecurity in Tasmania is underpinned by several pieces of legislation\textsuperscript{11} that has been shown to provide an appropriate range of specific and general legislative functions and powers to deal with prevention, monitoring, eradication and control of plant pests and diseases. Late in 2019, a new biosecurity legislation was proclaimed (\textit{Biosecurity Act 2019}) that ultimately (two to three years period) will replace existing plant biosecurity legislation in Tasmania. The new legislation provides a number of enhancements that enables an ongoing commitment by the Tasmanian Government to the Deed and to biosecurity emergency preparedness.

Biosecurity Tasmania manages biosecurity programs for plant pests and diseases. Branches within this Division are responsible for facilitating the development and implementation of policies on barrier control, emergency plant pest and disease preparedness and response planning, and pest and disease control and communications. Biosecurity decision making processes are governed in part by the State’s import risk analysis framework\textsuperscript{12} that aligns with State policy, national and international requirements. Beneath this framework is a set of documented procedures and methodologies used by plant biosecurity risk analysts. Biosecurity Tasmania also manages diagnostic services for pests, diseases, and weeds. It also manages weed incursions.

The Natural and Cultural Heritage Division oversee the Tasmanian Threatened Species Strategy. Weeds, pests and diseases are identified as major threats to native flora and fauna in the Strategy, which promotes the development and implementation of threat abatement plans to address key threatening processes.

\textsuperscript{11} Tasmanian legislation specified in this document can be accessed on the web at: \url{www.thelaw.tas.gov.au}.

2. LEGISLATIVE INSTRUMENTS

There are several legislative instruments relevant to plant pest and disease biosecurity in that currently operate in Tasmania\(^{13}\). At the time of writing, the primary legislation is the *Plant Quarantine Act 1997* underpinned by the *Plant Quarantine Regulations 2007*. There are several other pieces of legislation that are also relevant, such as the *Weed Management Act 1999*, and the *Seeds Act 1985*. However concurrently, legislation was enacted in Tasmania in late 2019. The *Biosecurity Act 2019* will completely replace the Acts listed below with the exception of the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*. Due to the complex nature of the transition and the current development of sub-ordinate legislation for the *Biosecurity Act 2019*, existing legislation is still being used. It is anticipated that progressively over the next two years the functions in these Acts will be progressively repealed with the eventual full replacement of the powers in each of the Acts by the *Biosecurity Act 2019*.

2.1 Biosecurity Act 2019

On the 26 August 2019, the *Biosecurity Act 2019* received Royal Assent. The Act intends to provide Tasmania a simpler and more effective legal framework for the management of pests, diseases and invasive species, imports of plant and animal products, biosecurity emergencies, and monetary reimbursement for biosecurity related loss. The Act seeks to represent modern biosecurity laws capable of progressing the Tasmanian Biosecurity Strategy, whilst minimising red tape for business and the general community. An important element of the *Biosecurity Act 2019* is the establishment of a Biosecurity Advisory Committee. The Committee provides advice to the Tasmanian Government and Minister for Primary Industries and Water on biosecurity in Tasmania and will help guide Government strategies and policy for biosecurity matters. Another important addition is the legalising of a General Biosecurity Duty that provides a legal responsibility on everyone to manage biosecurity risks in Tasmania.

2.2 Plant Quarantine Act 1997

The *Plant Quarantine Act 1997* provides for the quarantine of plants and the control of pests and diseases. It enables the Secretary of DPIPWE (or delegate) to declare, via public notice, any organism to be a pest, and any disease that may affect plants or plant products to be a disease for the purpose of the Act. Plant pests and diseases of significance to Tasmania are declared as List A or List B pests and diseases under the *Plant Quarantine Act 1997*. These lists are reviewed and published annually. List A is comprised of significant plant pests and diseases that are not present in Tasmania. List B is comprised of plant pests and diseases that are present in Tasmania, but subject to a control or monitoring programs.

A person who suspects that a List A or List B pest or disease may be present in any plant or plant product must report this as soon as possible to a quarantine inspector. Additionally the *Plant Quarantine Act 1997* requires the reporting of a new or unknown pest or disease, other than a List A or List B pest or disease, which the person believes does not normally occur in Tasmania. A person must not be in possession of a List A or List B pest or disease without written permission of the Secretary (DPIPWE) or delegate.

\(^{13}\) At the time of preparing this statement, a new biosecurity bill is progressing through Parliament.
The Act allows the placement of controls on the importation of plants and plant products, the quarantine and treatment of those materials, and has provisions for setting other relevant procedures and conditions in relation to importation. The requirements and procedures for the import of plants, plant products and other prescribed matter for the purpose of the Plant Quarantine Act 1997 are detailed in the Plant Biosecurity Manual Tasmania (https://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/plant-biosecurity/plant-biosecurity-manual) which is updated and published online each year.

The Act provides for the appointment of inspectors with the following functions:

(a) To detect and investigate pests and diseases;
(b) To prevent the introduction into Tasmania of pests and diseases;
(c) To control the spread of pests and diseases;
(d) To carry out surveillance for the presence of pests and diseases;
(e) To eradicate pests and diseases;
(f) To ensure that persons comply with the Act;
(g) To determine whether any person may have contravened the Act.

Inspectors have powers of search and entry, seizure, and treatment of materials or sites considered at risk of infestation or infection.

The Act enables appropriate control actions to be undertaken in the event of an incursion of a pest or disease. These actions include the application of import restrictions, the declaration of Quarantine Areas, limitations on the movement and possession of prescribed matter, and the ability for the government to assume control of a Quarantine Area. The Act also provides for the declaration of Restricted Areas and Control Areas, and provides for actions to be undertaken to effectively manage a declared pest or disease in those areas. Protected Areas may also be declared if it is necessary to prevent the introduction into that area of any pest or disease. Control programs are recognised in the legislation and can be initiated by industry and/or government.

The Plant Quarantine Regulations 2007 specify fees and charges associated with quarantine requirements. The regulations also detail offences and penalties under the Act.

2. 3 Weed Management Act 1999
The Weed Management Act 1999 provides for the control and eradication of weeds having regard to the need to minimise the deleterious effects of weeds on the sustainability of Tasmania's productive capacity and natural ecosystems. The Weed Management Act 1999 is based on a prohibited list approach. It provides for a process of declaring certain plant species as weeds by placing quarantine controls on their entry into Tasmania, and requires compliance with statutory management plans for declared weeds in Tasmania. In some cases, this can enhance biosecurity by preventing the entry of plant pests that may be associated with weed species, or by preventing the entry of weed species that are parasitic.

2. 4 Seeds Act 1985
The Seeds Act 1985 is the principal legislation to regulate and control the production, supply and sale of seeds. The Act contains quarantine restrictions relating to prohibited seeds in imported seeds. Like the Weed Management Act 1999, this legislation indirectly enhances biosecurity in terms of plant pests and diseases associated with those prohibited seeds.
2. Threatened Species Protection Act 1995
The Threatened Species Protection Act 1995 is the primary legislation used for declaring native flora and fauna in Tasmania in the interests of protecting it from threatening processes including weeds, pests and diseases. The legislation is implemented via the development and implementation of threaten species recovery plans and threat abatement plans.

3. PLANT PEST PREVENTION AND SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMS
DPIPWE’s Biosecurity Tasmania implements a number of policies and programs that are primarily aimed at reducing the risk of incursions of plant pests and diseases, including programs of border control, prevention of high-risk activities, and plant pest and disease surveillance.

3.1 Biosecurity Operations
The Biosecurity Operations Branch is responsible, amongst other things, for the quarantine border controls at the points of entry into the State. It includes the clearance of passengers, cargo, mail, plants/plant products, and animals/animal products, aircraft and ship waste. These clearance and inspection activities are supported by the use of detector dogs at various points of entry, including mail centres, throughout the State. Inspection and surveillance is undertaken at the border to ensure compliance with legislation such as the Biosecurity Act 2019, Plant Quarantine Act 1997, Animal Health Act 1995, Inland Fisheries Act 1996, Genetically Modified Organisms Control Act 2004 and Nature Conservation Act 1997. The Biosecurity Operations Branch also delivers limited Department of Agriculture and Water Resource programs in addition to the State based services. Biosecurity Operations also undertake a range of duties on behalf of the Australian Antarctic Division to ensure that no non-native biota or diseases are introduced to the Antarctic and sub-Antarctic Islands because of the Australian Antarctic Program.

3.2 Surveillance Programs
Early detection is essential to ensure that the impact of any plant pest or disease incursion is minimised. Plant pest and disease surveillance programs are delivered by Biosecurity Tasmania. Under area freedom/market access, several post barrier pest and disease surveys are undertaken. These surveys provide technical data for international market access applications, contribute to maintaining established markets, and provide data that supports the State’s biosecurity legislation.

There is a range of pest and disease surveys conducted in Tasmania at various times throughout the year for legislative and market access requirements. The fruit fly surveillance program, for example, uses a network of fruit fly traps distributed throughout the state that at present are inspected weekly during spring, summer, autumn, and fortnightly during winter.

---
14 At time of writing, Biosecurity Tasmania has initiated a review of its Plant Biosecurity Survey Program with the intention of updating survey process and procedures, introducing new technologies, and enhancing the intelligence value of survey data.
Tasmania also undertakes additional surveillance activities under the National Plant Health Surveillance Program, including trapping for Asian Gypsy Moth at ports.

3.3 Pest Diagnosis and Control
Crop protection activities are undertaken throughout plant industries in Tasmania. Agronomic advice on the management of plant pests and diseases is provided primarily by Biosecurity Tasmania entomologists and plant pathologists, the private sector and the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA), the latter which is a joint venture between the DPIPWE and the University of Tasmania. TIA and the private sector also provide research and development support. Many government programs are developed in conjunction with industry. These include the development and extension of farm biosecurity codes of practice (e.g. codes of practice for agricultural contractors), and the management of emerging crop industries (e.g. olives, wasabi).

Plant biosecurity diagnostic services are provided through Plant Diagnostic Services located within the Plant Biosecurity and Diagnostics Branch as part of Biosecurity Tasmania. The TasAg ELISA and Pathogen Testing Service is a NATA accredited laboratory based at New Town and provides a service principally in the area of virus detection and identification. The plant pathology laboratory provides diagnostic and control advice for plant diseases in all areas of agriculture, horticulture and biosecurity situations and addresses household and home garden inquiries on either a cost recovery basis or at no charge. A molecular diagnostics service and capacity is also present in the laboratories providing a range of molecular service for plant industries and the biosecurity system. Invertebrate pest identification services are provided by entomologists based in laboratories in Hobart, Devonport and Launceston. The Tasmanian Plant Diagnostic Services has been the subject of a re-development program to ensure all facilities meet national and international expectations and underpin levels of capability outlined in the Tasmanian Biosecurity Strategy and the EPPRD. This development is expected to continue through 2020/21 with further modernisation in alignment with a government biosecurity laboratories strategic plan for development.

3.4 Communications
Communication programs are an essential component of Tasmania’s Biosecurity Strategy. The communication program contributes to prevention by raising awareness of biosecurity amongst both visitors and residents. Biosecurity communications is a Divisional-wide activity with all Biosecurity Tasmania branches contributing to the development and delivery of communications materials. Tasmanian biosecurity communications is designed, amongst other things, to enhance people’s understanding of the importance of biosecurity and Australia’s international obligations in relation to World Trade Organisation (WTO) treaties and agreements. In particular, the need to base biosecurity policy development on science is highlighted through these communication activities.

Biosecurity Tasmania operates a biosecurity stakeholder register that any stakeholder can register with via the internet. There are approximately 1700 stakeholders on the advisory database and many organisations on-send the information to their members through their newsletters etc. This provides direct contact with stakeholders for provision of advice on anything of a biosecurity nature. This network has been used previously to inform stakeholders during both plant and animal biosecurity emergencies in Tasmania. Displays and distribution of quarantine information occurs through several avenues including regional agricultural shows and exhibitions. This program is coordinated and
delivered by a stakeholder engagement officer and a biosecurity communications officer. There is also one position dedicated to plant biosecurity communications.

4. PLANT PEST PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROGRAMS IN TASMANIA

Tasmania’s emergency management legislation, the *Emergency Management Act 2006*, provides a framework for a whole-of-government approach to prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. Currently, the *Plant Quarantine Act 1997* provides a broad range of specific and general measures and powers to deal with the prevention, monitoring and eradication of both endemic and emergency plant pests and diseases.

The Tasmanian Government has responsibility to maintain a capability to manage biosecurity emergencies through DPIPWE, which is identified in the Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan as the management authority for biosecurity emergencies including plant pest and disease emergency responses. The DPIPWE has an on-going effort to build capability for response to animal diseases, plant pests and diseases, and environmental pests that potentially threaten Tasmania’s biosecurity. Preparedness efforts centre on developing generic emergency management capability that can be applied to any type of biosecurity emergency with the intention that the relevant specialists will be integrated into response management processes as appropriate.

Tasmania is developing capability in this area with some elements in place. For example, Tasmania’s preparedness arrangements include the following:

- Enabling legislation;
- Plant biosecurity diagnostic facilities;
- High level biosecurity expertise;
- A State Special Emergency Management Plan for Biosecurity Emergencies

5. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

While originally developed with an emphasis on the production sector, biosecurity programs in Tasmania now apply to the natural environment as well. The State definition of biosecurity explicitly includes the environment within the scope of biosecurity activities. Regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) bodies in the State are also addressing biosecurity issues in relation to both the natural environment and sustainable agricultural production, via strategic planning.

6. PUBLIC HEALTH

Agricultural and horticultural production in Tasmania is regulated by a number of legislative instruments that govern how food is produced. These include the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994*, the *Animal Health Act 1995*, and the *Primary Produce Safety Act 2011*. The past few years have seen a progressive uptake of formal quality assurance programs in both the production and processing sectors. These programs are based on market driven self-regulation and are subject to regular external audit. Many of the programs incorporate Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) systems. Auditing processes are generally undertaken by private providers, with some government financial
support. In terms of plant products, most of the production volume is processed or packed as fresh produce and sold domestically or exported.

7. **Summary**

Tasmania, as a signatory to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed, is striving to maintain capability for plant biosecurity threat identification, prevention and detection, and capacity and infrastructure to efficiently and effectively respond to and manage incursions of Emergency Plant Pests according to the legal and operational requirements outlined in the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed and PlantPlan.

DPIPWE Biosecurity Tasmania
July 2020

**Key State Contact**
Andrew Bishop
Chief Plant Health Manager (Tasmania)
Manager (Plant Biosecurity & Diagnostics Branch)
Biosecurity Tasmania
Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment
PO Box 303
Devonport, Tasmania, AUSTRALIA

*Email:* biosecurity.planthealth@dpipwe.tas.gov.au
Western Australian Government Statement on Plant Biosecurity Policies and Programs

BACKGROUND

PLANT BIOSECURITY PROGRAMS

PRE-BORDER BIOSECURITY
Biosecurity Policy
Legislation underpinning Plant Biosecurity in Western Australia
Risk Analysis

BORDER BIOSECURITY
Quarantine and Inspection Service

POST-BORDER BIOSECURITY
Pest Surveillance and diagnostics
Industry and Farm Biosecurity
Pest Management

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

BACKGROUND

Due to its geographical isolation from the rest of Australia, Western Australia continues to be free of many pests, weeds and diseases that impact on the rest of the country. The State’s pest free production environments are a significant marketing advantage to the State’s producers and exporters of agricultural produce. The continued demonstration of product freedom from specified pests and diseases and contaminants has become increasingly important to gaining market premiums under evolving international trading policies and consumer expectations, and is one of the key objectives of the plant biosecurity programs of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

DAFWA implements a number of policies and programs, which are primarily aimed at reducing the risk of incursions of exotic diseases, pests and weeds and managing the incursion of exotic diseases, pests and weeds and managing the incursion, should one occur. The specific biosecurity programs are underpinned by effective information management systems that enable recording and reporting of pest and disease occurrences.

PLANT BIOSECURITY PROGRAMS

The mission of Western Australia’s plant biosecurity programs is to safeguard plant resources from exotic and endemic pests and pathogens. The biosecurity policies and operations facilitate safe trade, tourism and goods movement whilst reducing exposure of the State’s plant resources to exotic biological risks. This is achieved via pre-border, border and post-border strategies that are targeted to reduce the risk of introduction, establishment and spread of biological threats.

The biosecurity programs implement science-based quarantine policies and phytosanitary measures in the least trade restrictive manner necessary to maintain the appropriate level of
biosecurity protection in accordance with the obligations under the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity.

The biosecurity programs emphasise that management of biological risks to market access, product safety and quality, productivity and sustainability is a shared responsibility and can be managed synergistically and cost-effectively by means of an active partnership of industry, community and the Government.

Biosecurity programs focus on the following key strategies:

1. Threat identification;
2. Risk assessment;
3. Pre-border and border biosecurity measures;
4. Post border surveillance;
5. Incident management;
6. Eradication and containment;
7. Product integrity;
8. Supply chain biosecurity; and
9. Risk reduction treatments for market access, and training and communications.

**PRE-BORDER BIOSECURITY**

**Biosecurity Policy**

The plant biosecurity policies followed in Western Australia are based on our national and international obligations under the World Trade Organisation and in particular the International Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. One of the key elements is the principle of official control, in particular the principles of non-discrimination, transparency, equivalence and risk analysis.

The principle of non-discrimination between domestic and overseas import requirements is of fundamental importance. In particular, an exporting country must be assured that requirements for imports are not more stringent than the effect of official control in an importing country.

There must therefore be consistency between overseas import and domestic requirements. Specialists from the Department’s entomology, plant pathology, biometrics, socio-economics and modelling disciplines provide the scientific basis for the biosecurity policies developed by the plant biosecurity programs.

**Legislation underpinning Plant Biosecurity in Western Australia**

*Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007;*
*Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976; and*
*Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Regulations 2013*

The *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* establishes a flexible and consistent regulatory framework for the management of agricultural risks.

**Risk Analysis**

Threat identification and risk assessment are significant components of Western Australia's approach to plant biosecurity.

Economic modelling is used to assess and prioritise new threats and incursions of quarantine significance. These models are currently undergoing refinement and further development, as part of a research activity on biosecurity risk assessment.

In order to protect the State’s area-freedom from many significant quarantine pests and diseases, comprehensive Pest Risk Assessments (PRAs) are carried out for quarantine pests associated with specific commodities proposed for import from interstate. Where necessary, Plant Disease
Regulations are developed to provide effective phytosanitary controls that meet national and international standards.

**BORDER BIOSECURITY**

**Quarantine and Inspection Service**

Quarantine Western Australia (QWA) provides state-level border biosecurity services. The primary aims of QWA are:

- to minimise the likelihood of entry of quarantine plant pests, diseases and weeds through operation of effective quarantine surveillance measures consistent with our national and international obligations;
- to facilitate the safe interstate trade in plants and plant products through the provision of inspection and certification services; and
- to implement statutory obligations arising from relevant Acts and Regulations.

QWA provides import and export inspection services both under Western Australian and other States’ and Territories’ legislation. Inspections are carried out on plants, plant products and other quarantine risk material (QRM) such as fresh fruit and vegetables, flowers, seeds, honey, vehicles and machinery and any other possible carriers of QRM, imported into and exported from Western Australia. This includes surveillance programs to detect and identify QRM at border checkpoints, airports, freight depots, post offices and other entry points.

**POST-BORDER BIOSECURITY**

**Pest Surveillance**

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development runs major targeted and passive (including community surveillance where specimens are actively solicited from the public) surveillance programs for national and key interstate plant pests and diseases, to document their absence or level of containment in the State.

Information gained is used to confirm the State’s on-going area-freedom of targeted pests and diseases of quarantine significance. Surveillance results also monitor the status of pests and diseases that are under official control programs.

DAFWA has increased public awareness at transport end points (road, rail, air and sea) so that people living around these areas know that a Pest and Disease Information Service (PADIS) is available to handle any unusual sightings in this and other areas.

The effectiveness of the surveillance program is illustrated by the early detection of many incursions which have been successfully eradicated or dealt with by the use of incursion management plans.

**Industry and Farm Biosecurity**

To further reduce the risks of incursions of pests and diseases and other risks to markets, the plant industries in Western Australia have implemented industry specific biosecurity plans under the HortGuard and GrainGuard initiatives. These initiatives bring together all sectors of Western Australia’s plant industries to develop strategies to minimise the pest risks. The Guard initiatives complement existing biosecurity initiatives of the government and the industry and provide a coordinated industry-wide approach to identify issues and recommend management options.

The industry biosecurity plans represent a holistic system to pro-actively identify the key threats to productivity, sustainability and marketability and outline preventive and response strategies including the emergency incident management.

The farm biosecurity approach adopted by Western Australia emphasises farm hygiene needed to prevent introduction of plant and animal diseases into the farm from anywhere. It is based on
the assessment that prevention is cheaper than cure. This also promises marketing of quality assured produce. Farmers can have a major impact on the future of their own farm output and also at a wider level by implementing biosecurity measures on their farms.

Farm biosecurity is considered as essential to preventing establishment of pests, diseases and weeds. Inside the front gate farmers can take common sense, achievable steps to be assured that threats new to the state and those already here will be less likely to arrive and more likely to be found at an early and manageable stage. Farm biosecurity aims to keep land, crops and stock free of unwanted pests, diseases and weeds by managing the movements of stock, produce and equipment most likely to carry pests, diseases and weed seeds and ensuring early detection of threats. This includes containing existing problems to the infested part of the farm. Specific information packages have been developed for contractors that may access rural properties and for particular industries such as tourism.

**Pest Management**

DAFWA has a specific program on plant pest management. The Invasive Species Program is primarily responsible for the management of feral, neglected and un-managed plants and plant pests in Western Australia by means of declared plants policies and regulations.

The Invasive Species Program operates under the *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976* (ARRPA); the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; and the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Regulations 2013*. It is responsible for:

- development of policy on declared plants in Western Australia;
- implementation of declared plant policy in Western Australia through awareness raising activities, property inspections and non-compliance management;
- coordination of Western Australia inputs into national weed strategies;
- research into improved management techniques for declared plants in Western Australia;
- assisting regional communities to prioritise and effectively manage declared weed and other environmental weed issues;
- development and implementation of the State Weed Plan aimed at facilitating the management of weeds at all levels in Western Australia;
- delivery of technical, planning and field operational services to industry where funds are provided for the eradication of serious production weeds e.g. skeleton weed, bedstraw;
- carrying out surveillance for new weed incursions; and

development and maintenance of early detection and rapid response capability to manage new weed incursions.
Plant Biosecurity Policies and Programs in the Northern Territory


July 2019
### Acronyms

You will find the following acronyms in this document.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronyms</th>
<th>Full form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACPPO</td>
<td>Australia’s Chief Plant Protection Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AQIS</td>
<td>Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAW</td>
<td>Biosecurity and Animal Welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCEPP</td>
<td>Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPHO</td>
<td>Chief Plant Health Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWR</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture and Water Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPIR</td>
<td>Department of Primary Industry and Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPP</td>
<td>Emergency Plant Pest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPPRD</td>
<td>Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDRA</td>
<td>Greater Darwin Rural Area (includes urban and rural locations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPP</td>
<td>High Priority Pest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBP</td>
<td>Industry Biosecurity Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAQS</td>
<td>Northern Australian Quarantine Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDP</td>
<td>National Diagnostic Protocol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHBPS P</td>
<td>National Honeybee Pest Surveillance Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMG</td>
<td>National Management Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPHSP</td>
<td>National Plant Health Surveillance Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTG</td>
<td>Northern Territory Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT</td>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBB</td>
<td>Plant Biosecurity Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHA</td>
<td>Plant Health Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOP</td>
<td>Standard Operating Procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHS</td>
<td>Work Health and Safety</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 Overview .................................................................................................................. 178
2 Scope ....................................................................................................................... 178
3 Strategy ................................................................................................................... 178
4 Policies and legislation .......................................................................................... 179
  4.1 Policies .............................................................................................................. 179
  4.2 Legislation .......................................................................................................... 179
     4.2.1 Plant Health Act 2008 ............................................................................... 179
     4.2.2 Livestock Act 2008 .................................................................................... 179
5 Plant Biosecurity Programs ................................................................................... 180
  5.1 Scientific and diagnostic capability ................................................................. 180
  5.2 Prevention .......................................................................................................... 180
  5.3 Preparedness ..................................................................................................... 180
  5.4 Surveillance ....................................................................................................... 181
  5.5 Market Access .................................................................................................. 181
  5.6 Risk Analysis .................................................................................................... 181
  5.7 Awareness and reporting .................................................................................. 181
  5.8 Response ........................................................................................................... 182
6 Summary Statement ............................................................................................... 182
1 Overview

The Northern Territory Government (NTG), through Department of Primary Industry and Resources (DPIR), has a range of policies, procedures and programs in place which guide day to day work activities to aide growers in market access and trade, the economy and the environment. Central to all activities is the protection and promotion of plant industries to facilitate, support and ensure access to markets for trade.

Plant biosecurity programs for pests and diseases are managed by the Plant Biosecurity Branch (PBB) within the Biosecurity and Animal Welfare Division of the Department of Primary Industry and Resources (DPIR). PBB is responsible for the development of biosecurity policies and legislation related to plants and bees, including the delivery of systems, standards and services to Northern Territory’s horticultural sector to ensure the protection of the natural and build environment.

In the Northern Territory (NT) and across Australia, the plant industries and the environment are protected through a continuum focussed on pre-border, border and post-border activities. At each stage of the continuum, success is dependent on a partnership between governments, industry and the community.

At the State/Territory borders, reduced carriage of pests relies on creating a public conscience about the detrimental impact of plant pests, regulated inspection and by certification to gain market access for commercial shipments of pest-free plant products.

Post-border efforts are targeted at the early detection and effective response to pest threats, whether foreign or endemic. National and Territory response systems and plans for plant pest and disease incursions are in place and regularly utilised to combat outbreaks.

In the NT, the Plant Biosecurity Branch has adopted a risk based approach to plant pest and disease management when it comes to planning, surveillance and resources. Given the unique climatic, environmental, and demographic conditions of the Northern Territory, it is important that the Territory identifies its key biosecurity risks so the community may respond appropriately and effectively. A risk framework is in the process of being developed to support this approach.

2 Scope

This statement by the Northern Territory Government for Schedule 15 of the Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses, outlines Northern Territory’s acknowledgement of, and commitment to, risk mitigation measures and preparedness activities related to plant biosecurity.

A statement is required, under clause 13.1.4 of the Deed, to report in July of each year any material changes to the content of, or to its commitment to its Biosecurity Statement. It must also advise of any reduction in its resources available for its implementation of this commitment and identify any legislative obstacles to the operation of an industry’s biosecurity measures.

3 Strategy

As a signatory to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity, the Northern Territory Government is committed to the national approach to biosecurity. The Northern Territory Biosecurity Strategy 2016-2026 sets out a plan of action that is tied to that commitment.

The Strategy focuses on building strong partnerships, implementing effective legislation, risk-based planning, conducting targeted surveillance and border protection, developing sophisticated response capability, and improving governance networks informed by science and strategic risk assessment.
Further to this, the NT is in the process of drafting a Plant Biosecurity Research, Development and Extension Strategy which will align with the National Research, Development and Extension Strategy.

4 Policies and legislation

4.1 Policies

In the NT, biosecurity events have reinforced the need for strong border and post-border strategies. The rapid movement of travellers and cargo presents a constant challenge to maintain the NT’s freedom from major emergency plant pests and diseases that could severely damage our primary industries and the environment.

The Plant Biosecurity Branch (PBB) is responsible for developing biosecurity policies, in conjunction with other internal government agencies and within the national biosecurity framework. This will support the Branch’s approach to preparedness, response, and recovery functions, as well as ensuring a cooperative and consultative approach is implemented in partnership with industry.

4.2 Legislation

In recent years, the Department has focused on updating, modernising and harmonising legislation in line with corresponding laws, both federally and interstate. Some of these reviews are still being finalised.

The Biosecurity legislation for the NT can be found at: https://legislation.nt.gov.au/

4.2.1 Plant Health Act 2008

The activities within this document fall within the Northern Territory Plant Health Act 2008 and related subordinate legislation.

Plant biosecurity programs in NT are underpinned by the Plant Health Act 2008 and Plant Health Regulations 2011, they allow authorised officers under the Act to ensure appropriate actions can be taken for the control of plant pests, and to facilitate the production and trading of plants and plant products that are free from pests.

In practice, the Act provides a broad range of powers to address biosecurity risks. It provides the legislative backing for border security programs, which control the importation of plant materials, used packages and agricultural machinery and soil that may host pests and diseases.

More specific regulatory requirements are detailed in the Plant Health Regulations 2011 for specific pests and diseases of concern; however the Plant Health Act 2008 does not cover apiary biosecurity.

4.2.2 Livestock Act 2008

The Livestock Act 2008 and Livestock Regulations 2009 cover our regulatory activities for bees and bee products.

The owner of beehives must register that beehive with the Registrar — registered owners are then provided with information on the Australian Honey Bee Industry Code of Practice, Industry Biosecurity Plan, and other relevant documentation.
5 Plant Biosecurity Programs

5.1 Scientific and diagnostic capability

The Biosecurity and Animal Welfare Division includes scientific and diagnostic services, including entomology, molecular biology, and plant pathology. They not only provide scientific and diagnostic testing, but also research support and sound decision making based on scientific advice. The NT Economic Insect and Plant Disease Reference Collection is also maintained by the scientific and diagnostic staff.

Rapid and accurate diagnostics of plant pests and diseases is on hand within this team and supports capability and capacity that underpins policy and operational activities and surveillance efforts.

Water laboratories also provide support and assist chemical and microbiological residue sampling, biosecurity efforts, and food safety requirements for NT local businesses.

External resources can be called upon through Charles Darwin University, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, through the Museum and Herbarium groups, and CSIRO.

5.2 Prevention

The aforementioned legislation in place aides in the NT’s ability to prevent the introduction of plant and bee pests and diseases. Regulations allow for:

- required import permits for identified risk hosts,
- verification/inspection of certified products entering Northern Territory, and
- conducting ad hoc inspections at sites of high risk.

This is complemented with surveillance activities at high risk sites across the NT, and with communications and educational materials to inform commercial operators and the general public about pests and diseases of biosecurity concerns and their regulatory obligations in relation to the movement of materials and equipment, as well as the need to report pests.

5.3 Preparedness

A risk based approach to preparedness has been highlighted as strategic direction for biosecurity. Staff participate in the development and review of industry specific biosecurity plans and undertake Pest Risk Assessments based on Northern Territory’s major industries and high risk pathways.

The wider Biosecurity and Animal Welfare Division have a range of staff who have experience responding to biosecurity emergencies such as fruit flies, banana freckle, Asian honey bee, and citrus canker through deployment to other plant biosecurity (and animal disease) incidents and emergencies.

DPIR is looking towards continual improvements in planning and preparedness based on learnings for recent incursions. To complement this, a universal review program for responses has been established to assist in identifying key areas for continuous improvement in the future.

Further to this, DPIR is working closely with industry and other jurisdictions across northern Australia to enhance operational activities, including biosecurity preparedness, response and recovery.
5.4 Surveillance

The Plant Biosecurity Branch conducts a range of surveillance activities as detailed out the NT Surveillance Plan which is updated on an annual basis, and is designed to assist in the rapid and accurate detection of plant pests and diseases (including agricultural and environmental) before they become established in the NT. The plan also assists the NT to effectively assess and demonstrate area freedom through proof of absence, and to delimit the extent of pests already present.

Surveillance incorporates trapping in the vicinity of ports of entry and urban pest surveillance at sites that have a relatively high risk of pest presence bases on pathway, habitat considerations, and major industries.

Our major surveillance efforts include, but are not limited to:

1. Exotic fruit flies at ports and sites frequented by interstate visitors,
2. Targeted pests at specific sites to support market access,
3. Targeted exotic pests for the National Plant Health Surveillance Program (NPHSP),
4. Targeted exotic pests for the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program (NBPSP),
5. Screw-worm fly in conjunction with Livestock Biosecurity efforts,
6. Endemic bacterial and viral diseases of annual vegetable crops, and
7. General surveillance activities aimed at targeting high risk pests for the NT.

5.5 Market Access

Market access is facilitated through our Plant Biosecurity Branch, with authorised officers assisting local businesses to become, and maintain, certification and accreditation for interstate quarantine and market access. This is undertaken through the Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) Scheme.

5.6 Risk Analysis

DPIR is also undertaking risk assessments for key pests and diseases, which includes consideration of entry and movement pathways. This analyses inform decision making, assist in allocating budget and resources to highest risks, identify priority activities and pathways, and assist in identifying areas for capacity building, research and preparedness.

In addition, DPIR undertakes regular risk assessments for pests that have been detected in other jurisdictions or for new pests that are detected into the NT. This process identifies the level of risk posed to industry and the community in the NT and informs decision making about the most appropriate response for the NT.

5.7 Awareness and reporting

The Department aims to provide an accessible means of reporting and receiving diagnostics for industry, the wider public, and other peak bodies.

An important aspect of education and awareness is fostering “stakeholder” or “grass-roots” reporting through education and awareness campaigns which encourage industry and the public to report potential pest detections.

To ensure that all detections of new pests and diseases are reported, the NT maintains the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline (1800 084 881) and generic email (quarantine@nt.gov.au), direct
office line (08 8999 2118), and direct line for the apiary officer (08 8999 2036). Where messages are left, these are responded to within two business days.

5.8 Response

The current DPIR response plan for plant pests and diseases is documented as the “Biosecurity Emergency Management Response Plan” and has an all hazards approach.

DPIR has been actively involved with Plant Health Australia in the development of industry specific biosecurity plans. These are pre-emptive planning processes to ensure the industry is better placed to maintain domestic and international trade, negotiate access to new overseas markets and reduce the social and economic costs of pest and disease incursions on both the industry and the wider community. Current industry biosecurity plans for NT industries includes banana, mango, tropical fruit, plantation timber and nursery and garden.

The Department continues to review its response activities to generate opportunities to further refine activities and enhance the capacity and capability to respond to future incursions.

6 Summary Statement

As a signatory to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed, Northern Territory is committed to a whole of government approach to maintain base level capability for threat identification, prevention and detection, capacity and infrastructure to efficiently and effectively respond to and manage incursions of Emergency Plant and Bee Pests and meet its legal and operational obligations according to the requirements, processes and procedures outlines in the EPPRD and PlantPlan. The NT is also committed to a national biosecurity system and works closely with other jurisdictions to ensure the protection of international market access for all industries nationally and to ensure Australia’s maintains its clean, green reputation for plant products.
Statement on Plant Biosecurity Policies and Programs Australian Capital Territory

Prepared by the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate pursuant to the Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in Respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses

June 2019
INTRODUCTION

The ACT is 236,000 ha in area. 54% is reserved for environmental conservation, 16% is held under rural lease. The remainder is primarily urban, institutional or broad acre open space managed for public use/environmental conservation. All privately occupied Territory land is leasehold.

The plant industry sector in the ACT is small by any measure – its annual value of production is about $3.5M. Broad acre pastoral enterprises make up the bulk of the primary industry sector - cropping is uncommon and stock feed is often imported. There is a small horticultural element, mainly fruit trees, vines, olives and truffles. Retail nurseries are a prominent feature. Niche industries such as lavender and herbs are an area of potential development. There is an evident trend in lifestyle or hobby farming on rural lands, particularly for smaller blocks. There is a strong ‘farmers’ market’ sector where regional producers sell direct to the public.

Administrative arrangements

The Australian Capital Territory operates essentially as a city-state with an integrated local government and territory government arrangement.

ACT Government responsibilities for plant biosecurity matters rest primarily with the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) supported by the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate (TCCS). EPSDD is the principal non urban land manager for the Territory, although management responsibility for defined National Land, comprising national institutions, defence lands and the central parliamentary core area of Canberra, resides with the Australian Government.

EPSDD embraces all relevant non urban operational sectors including: the nature conservation estate; vacant crown land; and the rivers, streams and wetlands contained therein. Native vegetation management, and pine plantation management are areas of vegetation management focus. Functions relevant to plant biosecurity include pest plant and animal management, biodiversity conservation, horticultural services, agricultural extension services and related policy, legislative and regulatory support.

TCCS is responsible for urban land management including Canberra’s urban forest.

There is no dedicated biosecurity resource. Government biosecurity responsibilities and functions are integrated with general primary industries, natural resource management and urban amenity policy and operational arrangements and programs. Although integration of local government and territorial functions enables comprehensive coverage of the plant industry sector in general terms, the diseconomies of scale that necessarily apply in a small jurisdiction preclude provision of some of the more specialised biosecurity services (such as pathology/diagnostics) and some of the more resource-intensive activities (such as inspection and broad-spectrum programmed surveillance).

In this context, the ACT is dependent upon and promotes a cooperative regional approach to biosecurity issues with relevant NSW Government agencies. A good example is the collaborative approach to accrediting ACT vineyards as being Phylloxera-free that has been done by NSW. The ACT also works with NSW on a uniform approach to the registration of bee keepers. Active membership of national biosecurity forums is also important to maintaining currency with trends, developments and issues arising.
**Cooperative land management**

Government land management agencies collaborate with rural landholders on common matters such as weed and pest animal management where a sub-catchment or landscape scale approach is required for an effective outcome.

A rural extension service provides an avenue for engaging the primary industry sector in biosecurity matters such as standards and protocols for detecting, reporting and responding to incursions of pest plants and diseases. There is a range of community-based NRM programs, typically supported by The National Landcare programme funding. They address both urban and non-urban issues and provide a useful network for community engagement more generally.

Rural leases require a Land Management Agreement with the Territory on how the land is to be managed. Particular issues, such as farm biosecurity, weed and fire management are specifically addressed. Advice is provided on natural resource values and other environmental assets and their management requirements.

**STRATEGY AND LEGISLATION:**

In 2016 the ACT released the ACT Biosecurity Strategy 2016-2026 and has commenced development of an integrated Biosecurity Act.

Legislative authority for plant biosecurity lies principally with:

**Plant Diseases Act 2002**
Outlines measures for the control of diseases and pests including provisions for:
- declaring pests and diseases;
- imposing quarantines;
- prohibiting entry of material that could spread disease; and
- dealing with outbreaks of plant diseases or pests.

**Pest Plants and Animals Act 2005**
Provides for the declaration and management of pest plants through inter alia:
- controls over movement, introduction and disposal;
- controls over sale and propagation;
- declaration of notifiable pest plants; and
- directions in relation to management of pest plants.

**Animal Diseases Act 2005**
Regulates the registration, keeping and management of honey bees.

**Nature Conservation Act 2014**
Provides for inter alia:
- declaration of prohibited or controlled organisms and the control of related activities;
- directions in relation to the treatment of native plants suffering from disease; and
- declaration of ecologically threatening processes and the preparation of Action Plans setting out how the process is to be managed.
Emergencies Act 2004

Establishes the Security and Emergency Management Senior Officials Group (SEMSOG) whose main function is to provide liaison between entities in relation to emergency management. The Emergency Services Commissioner is responsible for the development of the ACT Emergency Plan, which contains a number of issue-specific response sub-plans including the ACT Biosecurity Emergency Plan.

Planning and Development Act 2007

Allows conditions to be placed on a lease that may address particular environmental or agricultural concerns.


PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Surveillance

EPSDD undertakes both passive and active surveillance programs for pest plants and pests of plants to: protect environmental values and community assets; assist with the maintenance of a viable rural sector; and to respond to ad hoc issues arising from new incursions that may extend to the ACT, or as a partner in a national program. Plant pest surveillance trapping was introduced around Canberra International Airport in 2016 following the commencement of international flights to the Capital.

Longer-term targeted programs are limited because of resource and expertise constraints and are generally confined to particular areas of investment such as turf or plantation assets or where national arrangements are in place. Examples of continuing programs include Exotic fruit fly, Asian Gypsy moth and Pine borer trapping around the airport and the Syrex Wasp control program in pine plantations.

Quarantine

Plants leaving the ACT that are subject to inspection requirements by the receiving jurisdiction are inspected upon request and issued with plant health certificates if appropriate. Prescribed prophylactic treatment is undertaken.

There is no legislated requirement for routine screening of import or export of plants. Pest plants or plant pests and diseases may be declared as such and movement controls can then be applied. Quarantine areas may be declared in response to a declaration to facilitate control of plant movements and pest/disease management.

Response mechanisms and capacity

Whilst there is no dedicated biosecurity resource, in 2013 the ACT put in place new management arrangements for biosecurity, establishing a Virtual Biosecurity Team with biosecurity responsibilities allocated to a range of officers across EPSDD and TCCS.
A Biosecurity Emergency Management Plan has been prepared and a Biosecurity Emergency Preparedness and Response Training strategy is being implemented. Staff capacity to respond to emergencies in terms of experience, skills and equipment is improving as the training strategy is rolled out. All trained staff have delegate authority under relevant legislation. They provide the majority of resources available for an emergency response to a plant pest or disease incursion. Supporting legislation for management of plant pest and disease incursions is adequate for management of small incursions. The Emergencies Act allows a whole-of-government response to be initiated.

There is capacity to identify and manage established pests and diseases impacting on the natural environment, primary industries and urban amenity. Invasive weed management is a major continuing area of investment. A research and diagnostic capacity is generally unavailable within government.

EPSDD participates in, or is a corresponding member of national forums for plant biosecurity and the ACT is a Party to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

Key ACT policy documents that guide plant biosecurity arrangements include:

- ACT Biosecurity Strategy;
- ACT Weeds Strategy;
- ACT Nature Conservation Strategy;
- Action Plans for threatened species and communities.

**Awareness raising and education**

EPSDD has a comprehensive community engagement, education and information program that is diverse in content and dynamic in nature. Particular elements are directed at natural resource management, primary industry and urban amenity. Tailored strategies are developed in response to particular issues. Links with community and industry stakeholders are established.

These resources and programs form the basis for responding to potential or actual incursions of plants pests and diseases.

**********
Almond Board of Australia Biosecurity Statement
August 2020

The Almond Board of Australia is strongly committed to ensuring the Australian almond industry is effective in reducing the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic and international trade, market access, public health, food safety, regional and national economies and the environment. The Almond Board of Australia is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The Australian almond industry is the largest nut exporting industry, with exports of 76,556 tonnes, valued at $772 million in 2019-20. In 2019 production was 104,437 tonnes however when current plantings of 53,014 hectares reach full maturity the industry’s productive capacity is expected to exceed 160,000 tonnes of kernel. Australian almonds are grown in Sunraysia, Victoria (47%), Riverina, NSW (31%), Riverland, South Australia (20%), Swan, Western Australia (1%) and Adelaide Plains, South Australia (1%).

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – THE ALMOND INDUSTRY

The almond industry, through the Almond Board of Australia, has worked with Plant Health Australia, and a range of government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks across the tree nut industry sectors.

The National Biosecurity Plan for the Tree Nut Industry consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines was officially published in 2016 following endorsement by Government (through the Plant Health Committee) and tree nut industries including ANIC, the almond, chestnut, hazelnut, macadamia, pecan, pistachio and walnut industries. It is a five-year plan 2015-2020 and work is expected to commence on a review of the National Biosecurity Plan for the Tree Nut Industry in 2020.

The National Biosecurity Plan for the Tree Nut Industry comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of 37 exotic pests and 37 exotic pathogens across all nuts. Eight high priority pests and two high priority pathogens of concern specific to almonds were short-listed. Pest Risk Reviews provide more detailed information on the biology of individual priority pests, potential hosts, overseas distributions, symptoms, entry/establishment/spread potentials and likely economic and environmental impacts.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property and nursery levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. Industry specific Contingency Plans will be included as an attachment in the next version of the National Biosecurity Plan for the Tree Nut Industry. These Contingency Plans will underpin and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Industry contingency plans will include industry specific details relating to the management, control and eradication of pest threats.

The awareness section identifies sources of existing information for the high priority pathogens identified in the priority pest list.

In addition, one national diagnostic protocol has been developed for *Xylella fastidiosa* and will form part of future biosecurity plans.

The Almond Board of Australia will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

Of the pests identified in the priority pest list of the National Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Tree Nut Industry, nine have been categorised for inclusion in the Emergency Plant Pest Response Agreement (five are specific to almonds).

The Almond Board of Australia commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

**NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN**

The Almond Board of Australia has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP. The Almond Board of Australia will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control Headquarters. The Almond Board of Australia will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non competency-based training to be delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**

The Almond Board of Australia has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the almonds industry via presentations at Annual Conference and R&D orums and publication of relevant biosecurity information in the industry quarterly newsletter and web page.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The Almond Board of Australia contributes a significant portion of its national research and development program through Hort Innovation Australia to plant health and biosecurity issues. For example, Enhanced National Bee Pest Surveillance Program MT16005 project is being undertaken by Plant Health Australia to support a nationally coordinated bee-pest surveillance program for early detection of high-priority pest to help safeguard honey-bee and pollinator-dependent industries in Australia. Additionally, the Almond industry have implemented a levy to raise funds contributing to their share of the Australian government’s biosecurity response to *Varroa jacobsoni* incursions in 2017 and 2019.

The Almond Board of Australia provides high health status, true-to-type varietal budwood for nurseries and growers to ensure plantings have the best possible start.

Almond Board of Australia also works closely with Biosecurity Australia on its import risk assessments and liaises with the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service on post-entry quarantine issues.
Apple and Pear Industry Biosecurity Statement

August 2020

Apple and Pear Australia Limited (APAL) is strongly committed to ensuring the apple and pear industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on apple and pear production, domestic and international trade, market access, public health, food safety, regional and national economies and the environment. The apple and pear industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Apple and Pear Australia Limited (APAL) is the peak industry body representing commercial apple and pear growers in Australia. The major production areas of the Australian apple and pear industry are based in the growing regions of Stanthorpe in Southern Queensland, Orange, and Batlow in NSW, Goulburn Valley and Southern Victoria, the Huon Valley in Tasmania, Adelaide Hills in South Australia and Perth Hills, Donnybrook and Manjimup in Western Australia. Victoria is the largest apple and pear producing state. Nationally there are around 550 commercial apple and pear grower businesses, with more than 9,375 ha planted to apples and 3,175 ha to pears. In 2018-2019 apple and pear production was valued at $628 million. Entry of exotic pests and diseases such as Fire blight, European canker, Brown marmorated stink bug and Gypsy moth threaten this production.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – APPLE AND PEAR INDUSTRY

The apple and pear industry through APAL has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and a range of government agencies in Victoria, NSW, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and South Australia to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the apple and pear industry.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Apple and Pear Industry, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was officially published in August 2017 following endorsement by Government and Industry. Copies of the plan have been made available to key industry representatives of the apple and pear industry as well as via the APAL website. Work is expected to commence on a review of the National Apple and Pear Industry Biosecurity Plan 2021-2022.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a high priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of 14 exotic pests and 5 exotic pathogens.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.
Contingency plans are available for five pests of apples and pears: Brown Marmorated stink bug, Gypsy moth, Tropilaelaps mites, and Varroa mite and Fire blight. Where available, these Contingency Plans underpin, and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section identifies a range of sources of further biosecurity information about the high priority pests and for the apple and pear industry.

In addition, national diagnostic protocols have been developed for Brown rot (*Monilinia fructigena*) and European canker.

APAL will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

Of the 19 pests identified in the priority pest list of the National Industry Biosecurity Plan, 4 have been categorised and are listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

AND

APAL commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in Categorisation Groups to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

**NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN**

APAL has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

APAL will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. APAL will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**

APAL has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the apple and pear industries.

In May 2020, APAL staff participated in EPPRD and BISOP training to ensure preparedness in the event of an incursion. Recently, APAL response to the ‘Draft Pest Risk Analysis for Cut Flower and Foliage Imports – Part 2’. Discussions related to the importation of apples from the Pacific Northwest, USA have begun. APAL has promoted biosecurity awareness and preparedness within the apple and pear industry via the industry’s e-newsletter *Industry Juice*, magazine *Australian Fruit Grower* and
website (apal.org.au). Most recently, a series of articles in AFG has been initiated to share with industry what happens in the event of an incursion, using the hypothetical discovery of Brown marmorated stink bug in the Yarra Valley as an example. Talking Points following incursion notifications are also communicated via these means. Regular sessions are held at industry conferences to inform growers and to improve communication.

OTHER ACTIVITIES
Apple and pear industry funds, collected through the statutory levy, are invested through Hort Innovation in plant health and biosecurity issues. For example, apple and pear levy funds have supported research and extension aimed at improving the use of Integrated Pest Management within the industry.
Australian Banana Growers’ Council Inc. Industry Biosecurity Statement

Australian Banana Growers’ Council is strongly committed to ensuring the Australian banana industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact production, marketability including intra- and interstate trade, regional and national economies and the environment.

The Australian banana industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The Australian banana industry has had a significant amount of experience in dealing effectively with exotic pest and disease incursions including an outbreak of black Sigatoka in the Tully valley in 2001 that was subsequently eradicated.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – BANANA INDUSTRY

The Australian banana industry, through the Australian Banana Growers’ Council, has worked with Plant Health Australia, a range of government agencies (including the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, NSW Department of Primary Industries and the NT Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries) to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the banana industry.

The National Banana Biosecurity Plan was officially launched on Tuesday the 24th of February 2005, by PHA Chairman, Mr Andrew Inglis, and Australian Banana Growers’ Council Chairman, Mr Patrick Leahy. A comprehensive review and update of the plan was released in September, 2011 (v 2.0). Copies of the plan have been made available to key government and industry representatives, including all state and regional banana industry bodies.

The National Banana Industry Biosecurity Plan is comprised of an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of 183 exotic pests and 31 exotic pathogens. Pest Risk Reviews will be added that provide more detailed information on the biology of individual priority pests, potential hosts, overseas distribution, symptoms, entry/establishment/spread potential and likely economic and environmental impacts of the pest.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. PLANTPLAN will be included as an attachment in the next version of the National Banana Industry Biosecurity Plan. The National Banana Industry Biosecurity Plan presently includes a template that will be used to develop contingency plans for high priority pests. These Contingency Plans will underpin, and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan will include pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of particular pests.
Diagnostics standards are being developed or published standards have been adopted for banana diseases of concern. These include standards for the following pathogens: *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *cubense*, *Ralstonia solanacearum*, *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 2, *Mycosphaerella fijiensis*, *Mycosphaerella eumusae*, *Phylosticta cavendishii*, *Phylosticta musarum*, *Xanthomonas campestris pv. musaeearum*, banana wilt associated phytoplasma, banana bunchy top virus, banana bract mosaic virus, banana streak virus, banana mild mosaic virus and cucumber mosaic virus.

The awareness section identifies a range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the eleven high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Sources of existing fact sheets on these priority pests have been identified. For pests where no existing fact sheet was available new fact sheets were developed and these are included in the document.

Australian Banana Growers’ Council will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and at least yearly reviews of the plan. The next review of the plan is due to be conducted in 2014.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Banana Growers’ Council commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN**

Australian Banana Growers’ Council has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Australian Banana Growers’ Council will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control Headquarters. Australian Banana Growers’ Council will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training to be delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**

Australian Banana Growers’ Council has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the banana industry via participation in Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign, through the inclusion of biosecurity awareness sessions at its biannual industry Congress as well as through its regular industry publications and website.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The Australian banana industry maintains:

- an active pest and disease surveillance program to detect exotic pest and disease incursions in Cape York Peninsula before they could become established in the main production areas.
• an approved tissue culture accreditation program that ensures that banana growers have access to clean planting material as required.

• an active involvement in the promotion of farm chemical accreditation, food safety and environmental management accreditation programs

• diagnostic capacity for, and knowledge on exotic diseases of banana funded through Horticulture Australia Limited.
Queensland Cane Growers Organisation Ltd.

Sugarcane Industry Biosecurity Statement

July 2020

Australia’s sugarcane is grown in high-rainfall and irrigated districts areas along coastal plains and river valleys on 2100 km of Australia’s eastern coastline – between Mossman in far north Queensland and Grafton in New South Wales. Queensland accounts for about 95% of Australia’s raw sugar production, and New South Wales around 5%.

More than 4000 sugarcane farms operate along Australia’s eastern seaboard. While the average size of a sugarcane farm is 100 hectares, some are in excess of 1000 hectares. While there are still a number of smaller farms, average farm size is increasing each year, as the number of growers contracts and area farmed expands. This consolidation is occurring through advances in technology and the need for greater economies of scale in farming. The Australian sugarcane industry produces 30-35 million tonnes of cane per year which, when processed, equates to around 4-4.5 million tonnes of sugar.

Australia is the third largest raw sugar supplier in the world, with 80% of Australia’s processed sugar exported. The production value of Australia’s sugar industry is around $2 billion per annum.

CANEGROWERS is the Plant Health Australia representative organisation for the sugarcane industry. Sugar Research Australia (SRA) is an industry owned company funded by a statutory levy that invests in and manages a portfolio of research, development and extension (RD&E) projects that drive productivity, profitability and sustainability for the Australian sugarcane industry. Both CANEGROWERS and SRA recognise the need for the sugarcane industry to work with the federal, state and territory governments to help reduce the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests that could adversely impact on production, domestic and international trade and the regional economy and environment. The Australian sugarcane industry is also strongly committed to ensuring that responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The Sugarcane Industry Biosecurity Plan

The Sugarcane Industry Biosecurity Plan (Version 1.0), consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was launched in June 2004. A major review of the Sugarcane Industry Biosecurity Plan (Version 2.01) was released in June 2009. Sugar Research Australia provided funding to Plant Health Australia Ltd to conduct a major review of the plan during 2014/2015, which resulted in release of the Sugarcane Industry Biosecurity Plan version 3.0 in May 2016.

The biosecurity plan identifies and prioritises the sugarcane industry’s biosecurity risks and provides a framework for risk mitigation and preparedness activities. The awareness section identifies a range of existing industry processes, fact sheets and other sources of information for the 23 high priority pests (HPPs) that can be used to promote biosecurity awareness throughout the industry.

An outcome of the Industry Biosecurity Plan review was the recommendation for the establishment of a Biosecurity Working Group to meet annually in February for the life of the Biosecurity Plan (Version 3.0) and review the Biosecurity Plan and Implementation table. This was in recognition of the joint responsibilities of government and industry to promote better biosecurity practices and preparedness for the sugarcane industry.
National decision making processes

CANEGROWERS will endeavour to ensure that senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control Headquarters in the event of an incursion.

CANEGROWERS will also endeavour to ensure that all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training, which is being delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program. SRA will have a significant role in most of these activities.

Pest categorisation

Of the 23 high priority pests identified in the Sugarcane Biosecurity Plan, seven have already been categorised for inclusion in Schedule 13 of the EPPRD. CANEGROWERS commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

Owner Reimbursement Costs

CANEGROWERS have developed the Evidence Framework for Owner Reimbursement Costs for the Sugarcane Industry (2007). As outlined in the Sugarcane biosecurity implementation table, CANEGROWERS will work with PHA to review this framework by 2020.

Best Management Practices – Smartcane

Smartcane BMP ([www.smartcane.com.au](http://www.smartcane.com.au)) is an industry led, government supported best management practice system for cane growing across Queensland. The Smartcane BMP program offers growers the ability to demonstrate how they manage their farming operations as well as the opportunity to look for improvement in practices for business and environmental sustainability.

The practices contained within the Smartcane BMP program are categorised depending on ability to improve productivity, profitability and stewardship.

The industry has developed a series of seven BMP ‘modules’ covering a wide range of usual farm activities. The Smartcane BMP modules support continuous improvement and have a review system in place that is underpinned by R&D and proven peer reviewed science. The first three are seen as the key modules:

1. Soil Health and Nutrient Management
2. Weed, Pest and Disease Management
3. Irrigation and Drainage Management
4. Crop Production and Harvesting Management
5. Natural Systems Management
6. Farm Business Management
7. Workplace Health and Safety

The Weed, Pest and Disease Management module supports biosecurity principles and actions. Disease management in sugarcane relies heavily on an integrated approach. Most diseases of sugarcane are not managed by crop protection products alone, or at all, and rely on a combination
of hygiene practices, variety selection, fallow management, and use of clean seed of approved varieties.

The Smartcane BMP supports a team of local facilitators throughout Queensland to help growers go through the modules they choose to take on – step by step.

As the grower answers each question, the system tells them if they are ‘below’, ‘at’, or ‘above’ the industry standard for each practice. If any practice is below the industry standard, the grower is shown what they would need to do to reach that mark. If they need some extra help along the way, their local facilitator is there to help the grower through the process.

**Biosecurity awareness material and extension services**

Both CANEGROWERS and SRA have produced and provide a range of biosecurity awareness materials for growers. This includes:

- Frequent and ongoing communication with industry, including CaneConnection a quarterly magazine, CaneClips which is a compilation of short videos which cover a range of topics, online webinars and industry updates. All of these are frequently updated and are a relevant source of information for the sugarcane industry.
- Biosecurity awareness and education workshops in major growing regions are run to inform growers about pest and disease best management practices as well as the latest in research undertaken by the industry.
- Two ute-guide booklets, Diseases of Australian Sugarcane and Pests of Australian Sugarcane, which contain all of the latest information on established and exotic pests and diseases for the Australian sugarcane industry. These booklets are also available as free e-books.
- In addition to this, PHA led an SRA project that developed the Sugarcane Biosecurity Manual, released in January 2017. This contains all of the relevant biosecurity information for growers, such as each individual’s General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO), biosecurity zones, pest fact sheets as well as a range of other information to help the sugarcane industry protect their properties from established and exotic pests and diseases.
- Productivity Service companies are organisations that provide clean seed, services to prevent pest and disease spread and extension advice to growers across the sugarcane districts. In most districts Productivity Services staff have been trained to provide machinery inspections and approvals to move machinery between sugarcane biosecurity zones.

**Other preparedness activities**

As outlined in the Sugarcane Biosecurity Plan (Version 3.0), both CANEGROWERS and SRA committed to the actions outlined in the biosecurity implementation table. This includes developing and finalising National Diagnostic Protocols, fact sheets and contingency plans/dossiers for all HPPs by 2020 amongst a range of other biosecurity preparedness activities.

SRA plays an active role in the biosecurity management and preparedness of the sugarcane industry. This includes overseeing national breeding programs and the development of resistant varieties, improving the capability for the identification of high priority pest species by morphological and molecular techniques, as well as conducting surveys for sugarcane pests and diseases in neighbouring countries, such as Papua New Guinea and Indonesia. SRA also has strong links with sugar R&D groups in overseas countries to understand exotic pests and diseases.
Plantation Forest Industry Biosecurity Statement

Australia's plantation forest estate stands at a little over two million hectares, split evenly between softwood and hardwood. In 2017-18, 28.6 million cubic meters of logs were harvested from Australia's plantation estates for further processing in Australia and export. The plantation resource provided almost 80% of the log resource that support forest, wood and paper product industries. Overall, the forest, wood and paper products sector is Australia's 6th largest manufacturing industry, generating total annual sales of over $23 billion per annum and employing approximately 120,000 Australians.

The Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) is the peak national body for Australia's forest, wood and paper products industry. We represent the industry's interests to governments, the public and other stakeholders on matters relating to the sustainable development and use of Australia's forest, wood and paper products.

AFPA is strongly committed to ensuring the plantation forest sector effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on the environment, regional and national economy and international trade in forest products. The plantation forest sector is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

PLANTATION FOREST BIOSECURITY PLAN

AFPA with Plant Health Australia (PHA), the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, and a range of government agencies and industry groups to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the plantation forest sector. This is documented in the Plantation Forest Biosecurity Plan.

The first Plantation Forest Biosecurity Plan was officially launched in 2007 with a revised, version 2.0, published in 2013. A further revision of the plan (i.e. version 3.0) is being developed in 2020 through PHA with funding and in-kind support from Forest Wood Products Australia (FWPA) and AFPA. Copies of the plan are made available to key industry representatives, including AFPA plantation grower members, state forest industry associations and their members, and the Institute of Forests of Australia (IFA) and Australian Forest Growers (AFG) and their members.

The Plantation Forest Biosecurity Plan is a framework to coordinate biosecurity activities and investment for Australia’s plantation forest industry. The plan consists of three sections to assist the industry in protecting its future viability and sustainability.

1. **The threat identification section** has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of 24 exotic pests and 20 exotic pathogens.

2. **The risk mitigation section** outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional, plantation and nursery levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.
3. **The awareness section** identifies a range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the 21 high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular pests, fact sheets are being developed.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

AFPA commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

**NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES - PLANTPLAN**

AFPA has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

AFPA will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control Headquarters. AFPA will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training to be delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**

AFPA has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the plantation forest sector via participation in Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign.

AFPA has a Forest Health and Biosecurity subcommittee which consists of industry representatives and technical experts who regularly consider and provide advice to senior industry leaders on matters relating to forest health and biosecurity across the forestry industry. Biosecurity issues are a regular item at major forest/plantation grower conferences and are a standard point of discussion at quarterly AFPA meetings.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

**Plantation Forest Biosecurity Manual**

AFPA member expertise was involved in the development of the Plantation Forest Biosecurity Manual developed and published in June 2015. This document provides forestry personnel with information about high priority forestry pests and biosecurity activities that can be undertaken at an operational level to minimise the risk of spreading forestry pests to new areas.

**National Forest Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy & Implementation Plan**

AFPA member expertise contributed to the development of a *National Forest Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy 2018-2023* and accompanying *Implementation Plan (the Strategy)*. These documents outline a vision for improved biosecurity outcomes for the forestry industry and other forest stakeholders such as government, natural resource managers and the community through the establishment of a *National Forest Pest Surveillance Program*.

**National Forest Biosecurity Coordinator**

To drive the vision outlined in the Strategy for the establishment of a national program AFPA is funding the role of a National Forest Biosecurity Coordinator at PHA.
FWPA Damage Agents Investment Plan
FWPA is the forest industry’s statutory research, development and extension services corporation. AFPA member expertise contributed to the development of FWPA’s Damage Agents Investment Plan. The investment plan has incorporated the RDE activities previously identified in the Strategy. Pending approvals of individual projects, under the plan, there is provision to invest $3M toward forest biosecurity RDE over 5 years (2019-2023).

Giant Pine Scale Transition to Management
AFPA has taken over the management of the Giant Pine Scale Contingency Plan for detection of giant pine scale.
Ginger Industry Biosecurity Statement

July 2020

Introduction

To ensure its future viability and sustainability, the Australian ginger industry, represented by the Australian Ginger Industry Association as the peak industry body, acknowledges the importance of minimising the risk posed by exotic pests and the need of effective responses to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Australian Ginger Industry Association is committed to work with federal, state and territory governments to help reduce the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests that could adversely impact on production, domestic and international trade and the regional economy and environment.

The association continuously work towards a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the ginger industry. Valuable assistance is received from Plant Health Australia, AgriFutures Australia, Biosecurity Queensland, the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, researchers and staff from Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) and a number of universities.

Commitments under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed

Ginger Industry Biosecurity Plan

The Biosecurity Plan for the Ginger Industry (Version 2.0 January 2020) was developed in consultation with the Ginger Technical Expert Group (TEG) and Ginger Biosecurity Implementation Group (BIG), which consisted of plant health and biosecurity experts and industry representatives. These groups were coordinated by Plant Health Australia (PHA) and included representatives from the Australian Ginger Industry Association, relevant state and territory agriculture agencies and PHA.

The biosecurity plan identifies and priorities the ginger industry’s biosecurity risks and provides a framework for risk mitigation and preparedness activities. It also provides a way to address the strengths and weaknesses of the ginger industry’s current biosecurity position and allows for annual reviews to be undertaken to assess progress against agreed activities, with another formal review conducted in 2025.

Pest Categorisation

The Australian Ginger Industry Association strives to ensure that appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings regarding either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts. Currently, three exotic and three established pests have been categorised and are listed on the Ginger High Priority Pest (HPP) list.

Assessments may change due to increased understanding of pest biology, changes to fresh ginger import arrangements, or production methods. The HPP list will be reviewed on an annual basis through the Biosecurity Reference Panel.

National decision-making processes

The Australian Ginger Industry Association endeavours to ensure that senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP) or the National Management
Group (NMG) and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Control Centres during the event of an incursion. The Australian Ginger Industry Association also strives to ensure that all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency-based training to be delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

**PLANTPLAN**

PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest response Plan) outlines the generic approach to response management under the EPPRD and introduces the key roles and positions held by industry and government during a response. The document is supported by a number of operating guidelines, job cards and standard operating procedures that provide further details on specific topics.

The Australian Ginger Industry Association has endorsed PLANTPLAN and will use this document to work effectively with government parties and other industry parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP incursion.

**Owner Reimbursement Costs**

Owner Reimbursement Costs (ORC) are included in the shared costs of a response and are available to eligible growers to alleviate the financial impact of crops or property that are directed to be destroyed under an agreed response plan.

There is currently no ORC framework for the Australian ginger industry. Developing an ORC framework may be a focus in the second stage of investment.

**Capacity and Capability**

The Australian Ginger Industry is committed to build support and raise awareness as they lead the industry in biosecurity issues. The association ensures representation on the Biosecurity Reference Panel (BRP) will be available to help coordinate the industry’s future biosecurity activities, develop key biosecurity messages/materials and review of the implementation plan activities and priorities annually.

To increase the capacity and capability of the Australian ginger industry, the association has made it compulsory for member to hold a current food safety accreditation and has made a tissue culture scheme available to all members.

**Plant Biosecurity Education and Awareness**

The Australian Ginger Industry Association strives to promote, disseminate and demonstrate biosecurity to the Australian ginger industry through industry forums, field days, networks and/or workshops (hard copy and online).

The association educates new growers to the industry and refreshes the knowledge of established growers. The association also includes biosecurity discussions as a component of grower events to reinforce key messages and raise awareness of new legislation. The development and distribution of awareness material to encourage industry engagement on biosecurity issues is a key activity for the association.

The association will also ensure that management team members and key industry staff undertake deed training when needed.

**Preparedness and Response**

The Australian Ginger Industry Association will help prepare for an incursion response by assisting in the development of fact sheets and contingency plans.

The association provides fact sheets that contains summary information about the pest, its biology, what it looks like and what symptoms it may cause will be provided to growers.
AGIA strives to make sure that suitable candidates are available for the development of contingency plans and participate in the investigation of the development of the off shelf/emergency permits with the APVMA for chemical treatments for Australian ginger industry HPP.

**Surveillance**

Early detection of a pest incursion can significantly increase the likelihood of a successful eradication and reduce associated costs. Effective surveillance plays a critical role in working towards this goal. Surveillance can be either targeted towards specific pests or general in nature.

By raising the awareness of HPPs, exotic and established pests the association attempts to ensure better monitoring across the industry and an improved understanding of the importance of monitoring records regardless of whether a pest was found or not.

**Industry specific response procedures**

**Industry communication**

As the peak industry body for the Australian ginger industry and i.e. signatory to the EPPRD, the Australian Ginger Industry Association is the key point of contact if a plant pest affecting the ginger industry is detected and responded to using the arrangements in the EPPRD. During incursion the industry nominees for CCEPP and NMG will be contacted and the Australian Ginger Industry Association endeavours to ensure that the contact details are updated and relevant.

The association also acknowledges that as key point of contact, the association will be responsible for relevant industry communication and media relations during incursion.
Australian Grape & Wine Biosecurity Statement

The Australian Wine Sector

The wine industry has a significant footprint in Australia, comprising over 6,000 wine grape growers over a vineyard area of 135,133 hectares as well as 2,400 wine producers. Australia currently exports 60 per cent of its wine production (generating $2.82 billion in 2018). It is estimated that the wine industry contributes over $40 billion to the Australian economy, and employs over 170,000 people. Although Australia is the world’s fifth largest exporter of wine, the Australian wine sector accounts for only 4 per cent of global wine production and is therefore subject to developments in global wine supply.

The most grown wine grape varieties are Shiraz (30%), Cabernet Sauvignon (18%) and Chardonnay (16%). The major varieties by colour are Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot for reds and Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon for whites.

The Australian wine industry has been fortunate to date in avoiding many of the world’s most devastating grape vine pests and as a result possesses some of the oldest vineyards in the world. Australia remains free from Xylella fastidiosa, and the industry has made a determined effort to limit the spread of phylloxera. Australian grape and wine producers enjoy an enviable global reputation for producing high quality wines.

Any pest or disease incursion could adversely impact the quality and quantity of grapes produced and/or add to costs of production. Not only would the introduction of a plant pest or disease have the potential to severely impact the profitability of the grape and wine industry at a national level, but the potential impacts at a regional level may have devastating consequences for rural and regional Australia where viticulture contributes significantly to regional economies. Any emergency plant pest incursion/outbreak will also impact directly on the fresh table grape and the dried grape industries. The wine sector is strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as effectively as possible to minimise costs to grape growers, the sector, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Industry Biosecurity Statement

The viticulture industry in Australia includes Australian Grape & Wine, Australian Table Grape Growers Australia (ATGA), Dried Fruits Australia (DFA) and Nursery and Garden Industry Australia (NGIA). The industry works with Wine Australia, Hort Innovation, Plant Health Australia (PHA), the Department for Agriculture and Water (DAWR) and state and territory Agricultural agencies to maintain a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity.
The National Viticulture Industry Biosecurity plan follows the Plant Health Australia template and is currently in a review phase.

Australian Grape & Wine is committed to working with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP using PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan). Australian Grape & Wine will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management group and to take up roles in the Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control headquarters. Australian Grape & Wine will use its best endeavours to ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training through the PHA national training program including training for industry liaison in an emergency response.

Australian Grape & Wine commits to promoting biosecurity within the wine sector and the viticulture industry more broadly and since its inception in February 2019 has convened a Wine Biosecurity Committee as a mechanism for coordinating and prioritising biosecurity work across the wine sector and promoting leadership. Networks for engaging with other viticulture industries will continue. Australian Grape & Wine includes regular Biosecurity updates via their member newsletter, as well as working with Vinehealth Australia to develop biosecurity alerts in the event of serious endemic pest events or exotic pest incursions impacting the sector.
BEEKEEPING INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY STATEMENT

The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC) is strongly committed to ensuring the beekeeping industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on beekeeping in Australia, domestic trade, international trade and market access. The beekeeping industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Currently there are total of over 30,000 beekeepers registered in Australia and those in the commercial sector are increasing to 1,800 beekeepers. The value of honey production in Australia is estimated to be $138 million. The value of crops benefitting from honey bee pollination is estimated at $14.2 billion.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – BEEKEEPING INDUSTRY

The beekeeping industry through the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and a range of government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the beekeeping industry.

The National Beekeeping Industry Biosecurity Plan launched in 2013, is in the process of being reviewed. A Biosecurity Beekeeping Manual has been distributed to beekeepers Australia wide and has been well received. Some state beekeeping associations continue to distribute copies to newly registered beekeepers. Work has commenced on a review of the National Beekeeping Industry Biosecurity Plan. A review of the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program (NBPSP) is currently underway. This review will be the basis of how this program goes forward when the current term finishes.

The National Beekeeping Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises of an introduction and three other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of exotic pests. Pest risk assessments have been carried out.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious pests.
PEST CATEGORISATION

Categorisation has been undertaken on *Varroa destructor* and it has been categorised as 3. Other exotic pests remain to be categorised.

A National Varroa Mite Eradication Program (NVMEP) currently underway in Townsville is being conducted under the default category i.e. 3.

NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control Headquarters. The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training to be delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

Representatives from the various States have undertaken Industry Liaison Officer (ILO) training and AHBIC is looking at further training in the future.

CODE OF PRACTICE

The Australian beekeeping industry has adopted a Biosecurity Code of Practice (COP) which has now been mandated by several State Departments as part of the registration process for beekeepers.

Work is also being undertaken to harmonise the requirements for interstate movement of bee hives as part of the industry 5 zone policy i.e. Western Australia, Northern Territory, Kangaroo Island, Tasmania and the rest of Australia.

Australian Honey Bee Industry Council
31 July 2020
Australian Lychee Industry Biosecurity Statement

The Australian Lychee Growers Association (ALGA) is committed to ensuring the Lychee industry will assist & effectively reduce potential risks from incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on production, domestic & international trade markets, food safety & regional economic environment.

ALGA is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Australia is a commercial producer of lychee with current annual production ranging from 2,000 to 3,500 tonnes, depending on climatic & seasonal conditions. All Australian lychees are marketed as fresh fruit because the industry uses airfreight and cool chain to provide fresh, best quality ‘chemical free’ lychees to markets. Lychees were introduced into Australia more than 100 years ago and the Australian lychee industry is unique in having the longest lychee production season in the world. Due to the introduction of earlier and later fruiting varieties and the extensive production zones from tropical to temperate climates, the industry produces fruit from October in Far North Queensland to early April in Northern New South Wales. This gives the Australian industry a significant advantage over other suppliers on world markets, as no other country can offer such a long line of supply of quality controlled fresh lychee product.

Industry Biosecurity Plan – Lychee Industry

The lychee Industry through Australian Lychee Growers Association is working with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and a range of government agencies including DAWR, QAF, CSIRO and various other Australian & State Government departments to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the lychee industry.

The National Lychee Industry Biosecurity Plan Version 1.1 consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines was officially launched in September 2011. Copies of the plan were made available to all lychee growers & key industry representatives. A review of the industry biosecurity plan is expected to be tabled at the next ALGA Management Committee meeting to be held in March 2018.

The National Lychee Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and key sections on:

- Threat identification, pest risk reviews and incursion management funding arrangements
- Risk mitigation plan
- Contingency plans and response management procedures

Ranking pest threats:

- What are the probabilities of entry into Australia
- Establishment and spread for each pest
• What are the likely impacts of pest/s on cost of production, productivity and market access
• How difficult is each pest to identify and control and/or eradicate

Risk mitigation strategies:
• Orchard level - exclusion activities
• State & regional level – movement restrictions
• National level – importation restrictions
• Nurseries & retailers – quarantine advice
• Surveillance, training, awareness

Contingency plans
• Refer to PLANTPLAN www.planthealthaustralia.com.au/plantplan
• Detection and reporting
• Investigation
• Industry communication

Pest Categorisation
ALGA commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider with pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

National Decision Making Processes/Plantplan
ALGA has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.
ALGA will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. ALGA will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

Biosecurity Awareness
ALGA has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the lychee industry via participation in Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign.

Other Activities
ALGA is in constant contact with lychee growers via the industry’s Communication Program, website, Living Lychee magazine and industry emails. This ensures growers and key industry stakeholders are well briefed on biosecurity matters as well as any plant health related issues which could affect them.
Australian Mango Industry Association Ltd. Biosecurity Statement – July 2020

The Australian Mango Industry Association is strongly committed to ensuring the mango industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on the viability of the mango industry. The mango industry has worked hard over recent years to further develop a strong domestic and export industry through development of new technologies which improve quality through the season and the marketability of the Australian mango crop. The Australian Mango Industry Association is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The Australian mango industry is currently worth $140 million. The industry sees the development of export markets as an area of importance and in conjunction with a number of organisations is actively working on expanding market access.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – MANGO INDUSTRY

The mango industry through the Australian Mango Industry Association is working with Plant Health Australia, and the Australian and State and Territory Government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks for the mango industry.

The Biosecurity Plan for the Mango Industry (Version 3.0) was formally endorsed by the mango industry (through the Australian Mango Industry Association) in June, 2019, and all state and territory governments (through the Plant Health Committee) in September, 2019. The Australian Government endorses the document without prejudice for the purposes of industry’s planning needs and meeting the Department’s obligations under Clause 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD). The implementation table was updated in September 2019 and Version 3.1 is now the most up-to-date version.

This plan is a framework to coordinate biosecurity activities and investment for Australia’s mango industry. It provides a mechanism for industry, governments and stakeholders to better prepare for and respond to, incursions of pests that could have significant impacts on the mango industry. It identifies and prioritises exotic plant pests (not currently present in Australia) and established pests of biosecurity concern and focus on future biosecurity challenges.

The Biosecurity Plan for the Mango Industry was developed in consultation with the Mango Technical Expert Group (TEG) and Mango Biosecurity Implementation Group (BIG), which consisted of plant health and biosecurity experts and industry representatives. These groups were coordinated by Plant Health Australia (PHA) and included representatives from the Australian Mango Industry Association, relevant state and territory agriculture agencies and PHA.

The development of Threat Summary Tables (TST), constituting a list of over 150 exotic plant pests and the potential biosecurity threat that they represent to the Australian mango industry was key to the industry biosecurity planning process. Each pest on the list was
given an overall risk rating based on four criteria; entry, establishment, spread potential, and economic impact. In this biosecurity plan, established pests of biosecurity significance for the mango industry were also identified as good biosecurity practice is beneficial for the ongoing management and surveillance for these pests.

The Biosecurity Plan for the Mango Industry also details current mitigation and surveillance activities being undertaken and identifies contingency plans, fact sheets and diagnostic protocols that have been developed for pests relevant to the mango industry. This enables identification of gaps and prioritises specific actions, as listed in the Biosecurity Implementation Table. The implementation table was updated in September 2019 and increase the mango industry’s biosecurity preparedness and response capability by outlining specific areas of action which will be undertaken through a government and industry partnership.

This biosecurity plan is principally designed for decision makers. It provides the Australian mango industry and government with a mechanism to identify exotic plant pests as well as to address the strengths and weaknesses of the mango industry’s current biosecurity position. Annual reviews of the Biosecurity Plan for the Mango Industry will be undertaken to assess progress against agreed activities, with another formal review conducted in 2024.

The biosecurity plan is a document outlining the commitment to the partnership between the mango industry and government to improve biosecurity for the mango industry.
Melon Industry Biosecurity Statement
July 2020

Melons Australia (the Australian Melon Association Inc.) is strongly committed to ensuring the melon industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic and international trade; market access; and regional and national economies. The melon industry is also committed to ensuring responses to any plant pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The Australian melon industry consists of 250 growers producing, on average, 291,089 tonnes of melons annually across an area of around 7,000 hectares. The majority of this is produced in Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia and New South Wales. In 2019, the Australian melon industry had a Gross Value of Production (GVP) of $181 million. Muskmelons were valued at $74.5 million and watermelon $106.9 million.

The melon industry has a Plant Health Australia levy of 0.1c/kg and an EPPR levy currently set at 0.0c/kg. A Memorandum of Understanding exists between Melons Australia and PHA to define how the PHA levy is invested. The PHA levy raises approximately $200,000 per annum. Current response contribution includes Torres Strait Fruit Fly and Varroa Mite.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – MELON INDUSTRY

The melon industry through Melons Australia has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and State and Federal Government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the melon industry.

The updated and reviewed Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Melon Industry, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was released in May 2020, and copies of the plan have been made available to all melon growers through the industry website www.melonsaustralia.org.au.

PEST CATEGORISATION

Of the ten plant pests identified in the priority pest list of the reviewed Industry Biosecurity Plan, one has been categorised and is listed in schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

AND

Melons Australia commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either plant pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

Melons Australia has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government Parties to manage any agreed responses to an Emergency Plant Pest.

Melons Australia will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management
Group and may engage with Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres, as appropriate. Melons Australia will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through PHA’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

Melons Australia is involved in promoting biosecurity within the melon industry, undertaking the Biosecurity Incident Standard Operating Procedures workshop and a Biosecurity Implementation workshop in 2019.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**

The melon industry supports a Biosecurity Officer who works to increase on-farm biosecurity awareness.
The Australian Olive Association Ltd Biosecurity Statement 2020:

The Biosecurity Back Office:

The Australian Olive Association Ltd (AOA) is a member industry of and works closely with Plant Health Australia (PHA) on industry biosecurity planning and implementation processes, fostering olive industry biosecurity threat awareness and preparedness, and industry response to incursions of exotic pests and diseases.

AOA is a signatory to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD), a government / industry cost sharing agreement that lies at the heart of the industry-government partnership arrangement for plant biosecurity and incursion management. The AOA Board has received training on its responsibilities under the EPPRD.

The National Management Group (NMG) is responsible for making key decisions on national biosecurity policy and resourcing in a response to an Incident under the EPPRD. The NMG comprises representatives from all Affected Parties for a particular Biosecurity Incident, who are authorised to bind that Party under the EPPRD, and PHA. The Olive Industry representative on the NMG is the AOA CEO.

The Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP) is Australia’s key technical body for coordinating national responses to Emergency Plant Pest (EPP) incursions (around 5 per month), and assessing the technical feasibility for their eradication. AOA’s representative on the CCEPP is the OliveCare® Code of Best Practice Administrator.

PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan); current version as of 26 November 2019, is the agreed technical response plan used to respond to an emergency plant pest incident. It provides nationally consistent guidelines for response procedures under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD), outlining the phases of an incursion, as well as the key roles and responsibilities of industry and government during each of these phases. It incorporates best practice in emergency plant pest responses is updated regularly to incorporate new information or address gaps identified by the outcomes of emergency plant pest incident reviews.

1. Biosecurity Plan and Farm Biosecurity Manual developments:

The Biosecurity Plan for the Olive Industry (OBP 2.0):


The Biosecurity Plan for the Olive Industry (OBP) Version 2.0 October 2016, outlines key threats to the industry, risk mitigation plans, identification and categorisation of exotic pests and contingency planning.

The OBP provides a framework for the olive industry, government and other relevant stakeholders to determine pests of highest priority, analyse the risks they pose, and put in place procedures to reduce the chance of pests becoming established, and minimise the impact if a pest incursion occurs.
The OBP is scheduled to be reviewed and updated in 2021/22.

**On-Farm Biosecurity Action Plan for Olive Growers:**

- *Farm Biosecurity Action Plan for Olive Growers Version 2.0 December 2019*

Whilst on-farm biosecurity best practices play a pivotal role in maintaining Australia’s reputation of producing high quality products and enabling producers to capitalise on this reputation and use it as a trade asset to gain leverage into global and local markets; perhaps more importantly good biosecurity practice underpins sustainable olive production. It is essential for olive producers to maintain well managed groves to minimise the threat of incursions of exotic pests and diseases. Additionally, biosecurity best practice can act as security against farm quarantine measures. Proper biosecurity signage; insect, weed and pest surveillance; and on-farm clean-down facilities are three commonly used farm biosecurity measures; these are now incorporated in the olive industry biosecurity best practice checklist:

**OliveCare® Biosecurity Best Practice Checklist:**

- Manage biosecurity risks – prepare an on-farm biosecurity plan
- Plant disease resistant varieties and avoid planting in infected soils.
- Know your high priority biosecurity pests – induct your employees
- Monitor your grove – report anything unusual to the exotic pest hotline
- Implement good grove hygiene – keep it clean, removal or composting of pruning wood, disinfection of pruning tools
- Enforce visitor movement requirements – people and vehicles
- Use grove biosecurity signage - place a sign at all property entry points requesting all visitors to report to the office before progressing into other areas of the site: [Order signage from the AOA Office](#)
- Provide vehicle and fruit bin wash down facilities – arrive clean / leave clean

Note: OliveCare signatories collectively produce >85% of Australia EVOO.

As part of OliveCare® compliance requirements, all olive producer Signatories to the code of best practice are required to complete the following on-farm biosecurity preparedness declaration.

- *Declaration of on-farm biosecurity preparedness*

**OBP 2.0 Implementation Audit:**

In 2017 PHA proposed the following OBP implementation strategy, however without a specific budget allocation for implementation progress is limited.

- Formation of an olive biosecurity reference panel – not yet funded or implemented
- Categorisation of critical pests and diseases of olives – needs to be completed for olive moth
- Preparation of fact sheets on critical pests and diseases – this work is progressing in house with the exception of the excellent across industry work for Xylella, and a
revised field guide for pests and diseases of olives including exotic pests and
diseases threats through HIA Project:
  o OL17001 – An integrated pest and disease management extension program
    for the olive industry

- Preparation of fact sheets and videos on farm biosecurity practices – this work has
  progressed in house based utilising Farm Biosecurity materials:
- On-farm biosecurity manual / website – a manual has been adapted from other
  horticulture industries - the manual and fact sheets are available on the AOA
  website:
- Integration of a biosecurity checklist and declaration into AOA’s OliveCare® Code of
  Best Practice - implemented
- On-farm biosecurity planning training for industry participants – not yet
  implemented
- Deed training for the AOA Board - undertaken by PHA in 2017
- AOA board to complete on-line biosecurity training: BOLT PHA foundation course
  and National Emergency Plant Pest training courses – to be implemented in 2020/21
- Joint surveillance activity: AOA participates in the National Xylella program and the
  National Fruit Fly Strategy (WA includes Bactrocera oleae – need to confirm with
  other state jurisdictions)
- Contingency plans for olive fruit fly and olive moth - not yet funded or
  implemented
- Diagnostic protocols exist for Bactrocera oleae, Xylella fastidiosa subsp. pauca and
  subsp. multiplex, but not yet for Prays oleae, also need to discuss with SPHD to
  understand diagnostic capability for the relevant exotic defoliating strains
  of Verticillium dahlia
- Collaborative opportunity to work with cotton industry on Verticillium dahlia –
  exotic defoliating strains – preliminary discussions undertaken
- Emergency chemical permits – these will be applied for if and when an incursion has
  occurred (potential control agents / strategies need to be identified)
- Olive grower register using The Australian Tree Crop Rapid Response Map Project
  (University of New England and Applied Agricultural Remote Sensing Centre) –
  progressing through AOA

**High Priority Olive Pests and Diseases:**
The Biosecurity Plan for the Olive Industry identifies the following high priority exotic
pests and diseases of olives in Australia, information on which is regularly distributed to
olive producers:

- **Olive fruit fly (Bactrocera oleae)** – Exotic Regulated Pest - absent from Australia -
  Ref: https://fruitflyidentification.org.au/species/bactrocera-oleae/
- **Olive moth (Prays oleae)** - Not yet categorised as an EPP –
• **Olive quick decline** (*Xylella fastidiosa subsp. pauca* with vectors), and **Leaf scorch** (*Xylella fastidiosa subsp. multiplex* with vectors) - EPPRD Category 2 – Ref: [https://www.planthealthaustralia.com.au/pests/xylella-fastidiosa/](https://www.planthealthaustralia.com.au/pests/xylella-fastidiosa/)


**Other Exotic Olive Pests & Diseases:**

The following are serious exotic pests and diseases of olives that have NOT yet been observed in Australia need to be considered when the OBP is next reviewed:

• **Olive Bark Beetle** *Phloeotribus scarabaeoides* - endemic across the Mediterranean region, Africa, Central and South America, Europe and Northern Asia

• **Olive Brown Spot** (fruit rot, twig and branch dieback) *Camarosporium dalmaticum* - widespread in Southern Italy is associated with *Bactrocera oleae* activity, possibly with disbursement by an egg parasite

The following are other serious exotic pests and diseases of olives that have been observed in Australia but not yet seen on olives – also need to be considered when the OBP is next reviewed:

• **Canker/ Dieback** *Cytospora sorbicola* - reported on plum in Western Australia, but not yet seen on olives

• **General Olive Decline** *Neofusicoccum parvum* - reported on a broad range of hosts in Australia, but not yet seen on olives

**Further work is also needed on the development of olive grower fact sheets for the above exotic pests and diseases.**

**Biosecurity Awareness:**

AOA is involved in promoting biosecurity best practice within the olive industry via participation in various Plant Health Australia initiatives.

Information is shared with growers via AOA communication platforms, including websites, and newsletters.

Industry biosecurity is now implemented through AOA’s *OliveCare®* Code of Best Practice.

The AOA includes sessions on pests and diseases at National Olive Industry conferences and workshops where applicable.

Growers have also received olive industry specific fact sheets on a range of issues including measures growers should take to protect their groves.

**Pest Reporting and Responses:**

AOA promotes through its communication platforms grower participation in an on-line short course focusing on a grower’s role in reporting and responses.
A fact sheet summarising some of the key information from the course can be downloaded here.

AOA also promotes use of the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline, where olive growers suspect a new olive pest or disease.

**Key Biosecurity Risks for the Australian Olive Industry:**

- Movement of machinery and workers on and off groves eg Olive Lace Bug
- Propagation and distribution of nursery stock without adopting adequate plant health protocols (especially for fungal and bacterial diseases) – this includes other host species that may be sourced by neighbours.
- Illegal importation of plant propagation material to gain an economic advantage
- Environmental impacts (drought/bushfires/climate change etc) moving pests into olive groves.

2. **Changes in resource allocation for diagnostic protocol and contingency plan development:**

No additional resource allocation currently available to the olive industry

**AOA is interested in discussing with PHA a biosecurity best practice implementation plan and potential funding sources.**

3. **Engagement, training or certification of industry biosecurity officers:**

AOA board will complete BOLT PHA foundation course and National Emergency Plant Pest training courses in 2020-21.

4. **Any other investments to change levy arrangements, or improve biosecurity and preparedness within the Industry**

The Australian Tree Crop Rapid Response Map Project (University of New England and Applied Agricultural Remote Sensing Centre) is providing valuable data on the location of all olive groves (and other tree crops) in Australia.

HIA project: OL17001 – An integrated pest and disease management extension program for the olive industry is providing an updated olive pests and diseases field guide, including exotic pests and diseases threats.
Biosecurity Statement for the
Australian Processing Tomato Industry

July 2020

The Australian Processing Tomato Research Council (APTRC - representing Australia’s Processing Tomato Industry) is strongly committed to ensuring the industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on the industry’s viability through domestic trade, regional and national economies, and the environment. The industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Australian tomato processors have a domestic market focus, and with an annual production of around 220,000 MT, the industry has a farm gate value of around $25M. The industry currently comprises twelve growers, supplying two processors – Kagome and SPC. Production is centred across northern Victoria and in nearby locations in southern NSW, making a significant contribution to regional economies.

The Australian processing tomato industry remains strongly committed to protecting this high-value crop from biosecurity threats arising both locally and overseas. The industry collaborates with other industry groups and research institutions, as well as state and federal agencies, in achieving this objective. It is a strong contributor to the development of a National Biosecurity Plan for the Tomato Industry, and continually monitors threats through on-farm surveillance as well as regular contact with Australian regulatory authorities, researchers and overseas contact networks.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN FOR THE TOMATO INDUSTRY

The Processing Tomato Industry is a sector of the wider Australian tomato industry, which also includes tomatoes grown for the fresh market. Through the APTRC, the industry continues to work with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and a range of government agencies [particularly the Victorian Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources and NSW Department of Primary Industries] to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks that affect it.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Tomato Industry, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was released in December 2015. Copies of the plan have been made available to key industry representatives and stakeholders including growers, processors, researchers and service industry representatives. Work is expected to commence on a review of the National Tomato Industry Biosecurity Plan in 2020/21.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan is comprised of an introduction and four other key sections. Under the Tomato Industry Biosecurity Plan, almost 300 exotic plant pests were identified as threats and, within the Threat Identification section of the plan, nine of these were singled out as high priority threats to the Processing Tomato Industry.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.
The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, and relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These Contingency Plans underpin, and will be used in conjunction with, the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each Contingency Plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section identifies a range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular pests, fact sheets were or are being developed.

In addition, a national diagnostic protocol is being developed for Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus (ToBRFV) and will form part of future biosecurity plans.

The APTRC will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan for the Tomato Industry.

### PEST CATEGORISATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Of the 9 pests identified in the high priority pest list for Processing Tomatoes within the National Industry Biosecurity Plan, 3 have been categorised and are listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The APTRC commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

The APTRC has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

The APTRC will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. The APTRC will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

### BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

The APTRC has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the Processing Tomato industry through participation in Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign, and communication of plant health and biosecurity issues through newsletters, field days and at the annual industry forum – although some activities have been postponed or cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

The APTRC is currently involved passive surveillance project for crop pests (in conjunction with the Potato Industry and Agriculture Victoria), as well as participating in various CCEPP activities - particularly in relation to Fall Army Worm (FAW), the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB), Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus (ToBRFV), and Exotic Fruit Flies of the Torres Strait.
Sweetpotato Industry Biosecurity Statement

Prepared by Craig Henderson (Principal Horticulturist, Henderson RDE) July 2020

Background

Australian Sweetpotato Growers Incorporated (ASPG) is committed to ensuring the sweetpotato industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases, which could adversely impact productivity and farm profitability, domestic trade and market access, export development opportunities, food safety, public health, regional economies and the Australian environment. The sweetpotato industry prioritises responses to any pest incursions that may occur, acting as rapidly and effectively as possible, to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

- Sweetpotatoes are available all year round in Australia, with total production around 110,000 tonnes, worth an estimated Farm Gate Gross Value of $100 million.
- Queensland is the biggest producer, with over 85% of production, centred mainly on Bundaberg. The second major producing area is around Cudgen in northern New South Wales. Sweetpotatoes are also grown at Mareeba, Atherton, Rockhampton, Gatton/Esk and Alberton (QLD), Murwillumbah (NSW), Perth, Carnarvon, and Kununurra (WA).
- The sweetpotato industry is a significant regional employer, providing work for around 4000 people in a normal year.
- The total number of commercial producers is estimated at 60. Farm size ranges from 10 to 450 hectares, with most 15-100 hectare in size.
- Most commercial growers purchase pathogen-tested planting material every year, which has almost doubled marketable yield per hectare, compared to previous practice.
- All fresh market sweetpotatoes sold in Australia are grown in Australia. Processed foods (e.g. chips) are the only sweetpotato products imported into Australia.
- Processing and export are currently minor (increasing) sectors within the industry.

Industry Biosecurity Plan – Sweetpotato Industry

The sweetpotato industry, through ASPG, is working with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and State/Federal government agencies, to collaborate nationally in managing biosecurity risks in the sweetpotato industry.

The Sweetpotato Industry, in conjunction with PHA, has a 5-year rolling Sweetpotato Biosecurity Plan, funded via the Hort Innovation levy system.

The Sweetpotato Biosecurity Plan was finalised in mid-2019 and is consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines. Yearly reviews are funded under the development project for the subsequent four years, the first completed by February 2020.

The Sweetpotato Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section lists priority pests, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of exotic pests and exotic pathogens.
The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels, as well as management of research facilities, importation of germplasm, and plant multiplication pathways, to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

Contingency plans and response management procedures sections provide key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling, and financial advice providers. These Contingency Plans will underpin and be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Future, prioritised contingency plans will include pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section details existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the identified high priority pests. Where no information is available on particular pests, fact sheets will be developed.

In addition, national diagnostic protocols are being developed for known important viruses, soil insect pests, and nematodes, to support future biosecurity plans.

ASPG will work with Plant Health Australia to support appropriate resourcing to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**Pest Categorisation**

ASPG will encourage appropriate industry technical experts’ participation in future meetings of the Categorisation Group, to consider pest categorisation and funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

**National Decision-Making Processes/PLANTPLAN**

ASPG has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties, to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

ASPG will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group, and to take up roles in Local Control Centres, or the State Coordination Centres. ASPG will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency-based training, delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program. The ASPG professional consultant delegated to represent ASPG in EPPRD activities has undertaken the necessary training.

**Biosecurity Awareness**

ASPG promotes biosecurity within the sweetpotato industry, via participation in Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign. As part of its commitment to industry development, ASPG supports specific activities to enhance management of exotic or endemic pests and diseases through research, development, and extension projects. ASPG updates growers on biosecurity-relevant issues at industry events, such as workshops and field days.

**Other Activities**

ASPG, through Hort Innovation, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, and Advance Queensland, as well as in-kind grower collaboration, is currently supporting research, development and extension projects investigating management of nematodes, soil insects and viruses in sweetpotatoes. Biosecurity-aligned activities withing these projects include virus/phytoplasma surveys in Australia and Papua New Guinea, and development of diagnostic and management protocols for the previously mentioned pests.
Tea Tree Industry Biosecurity Statement

July 2020

Background
The Australian Tea Tree Industry Association (ATTIA Ltd) is strongly committed to ensuring the tea tree industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on production of 100% pure Australian tea tree oil (TTO) which may affect domestic and export trade, market access, public health safety and the national environment. The tea tree industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The Australian tea tree industry has the capacity to produce up to 1,200,000 kg of TTO annually and this is expected to grow significantly in the next decade. With 90% of all production exported to over 70 countries (source: ABS) the crop had an export value of AU$ 29 million in 2019/20, a significant decline from prior periods caused by drought, frost and bush fire events.

ATTIA Ltd members represent more than 90% of all TTO produced in Australia and most have in place a voluntary quality assurance system that includes integrated pest & disease management protocols.

Industry Biosecurity Plan – Tea Tree Industry
The tea tree industry through ATTIA Ltd is working with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and a range of government agencies including DEEDI and NSW DPI to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the tea tree industry.

ATTIA Ltd contracted PHA in December 2018 to develop and deliver a Biosecurity Plan for the tea tree industry by 30 September 2020.

A Tea Tree Industry National Biosecurity Plan, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, commenced in December 2017 and was delivered in December 2019, this will be finalised by 30 September 2020.

The National Biosecurity Plan comprises an executive summary and five key sections.

The Significant Biosecurity Threats section focuses on five key areas (high priority pests, implementation, threat identification, risk mitigation and response management) and identifies the components to be implemented over the life of the Biosecurity Plan 2019 - 2023.

The Threat Identification and Pest Risk Assessments section includes a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of exotic pests and pathogens.

The Risk Mitigation and Preparedness section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The awareness section identifies a range of new and existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular pests, fact sheets have been developed.

The contingency plans and procedures in the Response Management section detail key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These Contingency Plans underpin, and will be used in conjunction with, the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.
The National Biosecurity Plan for the tea tree industry also includes details of relevant information included in the plan that may increase preparedness.

In addition and where appropriate, national diagnostic protocols have been developed for priority exotic pests that are identified and will form part of future biosecurity plans.

ATTIA Ltd will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**Pest Categorisation**

```
ATTIA Ltd commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.
```

**National Decision Making Process and PLANTPLAN**

ATTIA Ltd has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

ATTIA Ltd will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. ATTIA Ltd will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

**Biosecurity Awareness**

ATTIA Ltd has not yet been involved in promoting biosecurity within the tea tree industry via participation in Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign. The incursion of Myrtle Rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*) in 2010/11 raised the awareness of the tea tree industry to the risk of exotic incursions and prompted steps that resulted in ATTIA Ltd joining PHA and participating in the EPPR Deed.

**Other Activities**

1. As a direct result of the 2010/11 Myrtle Rust incursion ATTIA Ltd has, with matched financial support from AgriFutures Australia, identified control options for this pest and widely disseminated this information to producers through meetings and Newsletters. There is a page on the ATTIA website dedicated to this pest: [http://www.teatree.org.au/myrtle_rust.php](http://www.teatree.org.au/myrtle_rust.php).
2. ATTIA has funded research into the genetics of *Melaleuca alternifolia* to identify strains that are resistant to *A. psidii* (see [https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10886-015-0628-0](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10886-015-0628-0)). This is now included as a selection criterion in ATTIA’s Tea Tree Breeding Program that has been operating since 1991.
3. ATTIA has funded research into Elsinoë scab (*Elsinoë eelemani*), an indigenous fungus that causes scabby lesions to develop on infected Tea Tree (*Melaleuca alternifolia*) leaves and stems. The disease, Elsinoë scab, has been reported to occur in Tea Tree for more than 20 years. There is a page on the ATTIA website dedicated to this pest: [https://teatree.org.au/elsinoe_scab.php](https://teatree.org.au/elsinoe_scab.php).
4. In 2020 ATTIA, with financial support from AgriFutures Australia, instigated a full review of weeds in tea tree plantations including IPM and resistance strategies. This scoping study will conclude in August 2020 and will provide the industry with recommendations for weed management strategies as well as RD&E options to mitigate the impact of weeds in tea tree plantations.

A second scoping study targeting invertebrate pests and other diseases of *Melaleuca alternifolia*, including *A. psidii*, is due to commence in September 2020 with similar aims.
Walnut Industry Biosecurity Statement

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc is strongly committed to ensuring the Walnut Industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic trade/international trade-market access/public health/food safety/regional and national economy/environment. The Walnut Industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The Australian Walnut Industry operates in most states of Australia and has grown significantly in recent years due to growth in the establishment of large-scale commercial plantings.

Major walnut production areas in Australia are on the east coast of Tasmania, the Goulburn Valley near Shepparton and the Murray Irrigation area near Kerang and Swan Hill in Victoria and in the Riverina near Griffith in New South Wales.

Small scale orchards are scattered in the Ovens Valley, Gippsland and Central region of Victoria, Southern Highlands and Central Tablelands of New South Wales, the Adelaide Hills and Riverland regions of South Australia, and in south-west Western Australia.

The Australian industry is a mix of small, older orchards and new, more extensive orchards. Most orchards are family operations, but these do not represent the majority of area under cultivation.

The production of Australian Walnuts in 2020 was in excess of 12,00 tonnes in-shell, with a farm-gate value of $58 million and export value of $30 million.

Just over 4,000 ha of mature and developing trees were under cultivation in 2020. This number is expected to rise to more than 4,300 ha by 2022 as current growers expand their orchards, and as new growers enter the industry in current and new regions.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – WALNUT INDUSTRY

The Walnut Industry through the Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), a range of government agencies including DAWE, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Agriculture Victoria and Primary Industries and Regions SA and the other nut industries of Almonds, Hazelnuts, Pistachios. Pecans, Chestnuts and Macadamias to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the Walnut Industry.
The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of thirty (30) exotic pests and fifteen (15) exotic pathogens.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These Contingency Plans underpin and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section identifies a range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular pests, fact sheets have been and will continue to be developed.

The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan for Walnuts does not include any other specific details.

In addition, no national diagnostic protocols have been developed.

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

PEST CATEGORISATION

Of the forty-five (45) pests identified in the priority pest list of the National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan, one (1) has been categorised and is listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

AND

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in Categorisation Groups to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.
NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres.

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the Walnut Industry through the involvement with the Khapra Beetle incursions and eradication programs. Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc maintains a Biosecurity section on the industry website.

In addition, Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc prepares and supplies to members a range of pest and disease and orchard sanitation technical sheets.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc has employed an Industry Development Officer and one of the roles is to undertake biosecurity activities including: -

a) Representation of Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc at relevant Plant Health Australia meetings,

b) Prepare a draft On-Farm Biosecurity Training Manual

c) Ongoing review the pest list within the Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan.

The position of the Industry Development Officer is funded through general revenue of Australian Walnut Industry Association Inc.
AUSVEG Ltd. Biosecurity Statement

July 2020

AUSVEG is strongly committed to ensuring the vegetable and potato industries effectively reduce the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic trade, international trade, market access and the environment.

The vegetable and potato industries are also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The vegetable and potato industries make a sizeable contribution to the Australian economy and combined they represent one of the largest horticultural industries with an estimated worth of $3.7 billion at the farm-gate. A strong biosecurity system is important to the industries continued success.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLANS – VEGETABLE AND POTATO INDUSTRIES

The vegetable and potato industries through AUSVEG as the national peak industry body work with Plant Health Australia, and a range of government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity.

AUSVEG will continue to work with Plant Health Australia to update and review the National Industry Biosecurity Plans for the vegetable and potato industries. Work on the updates will be consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines.

The National Vegetable and Potato Industry Biosecurity Plans contain a threat identification section with a priority pest lists, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of exotic pests and exotic pathogens.

Updates to the Industry Biosecurity Plans take into account information regarding the biology of individual priority pests, potential hosts, overseas distribution, symptoms, entry/establishment/spread potential and likely economic and environmental impacts of the pest.

The risk mitigation sections outline a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures sections detail key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. PLANTPLAN, which provides a description of the general procedures, management structure and information flow system for the handling of a plant pest emergency at national, state/territory and district levels, is also included in this section.
The Vegetable and Potato Industry Biosecurity Plans link to a number of threat specific contingency plans available online and AUSVEG will work with PHA to provide direction and feedback, to ensure that the biosecurity plan is updated in accordance with an appropriate and comprehensive review by the industry.

PEST CATEGORISATION

AUSVEG commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future decision making meetings to consider either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multiindustry impacts.

NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

AUSVEG has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

AUSVEG will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management Group. We will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training to be delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

AUSVEG endeavours to make available an industry delegate as industry liaison officer in times of a significant incursion response for the vegetable or potato industry.

BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

AUSVEG has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the vegetable and potato industries via the Vegetables and Potato Biosecurity Program that it provides in conjunction with PHA.

We hold regular meetings with DAWE, a range of other Government departments, our state member bodies and PHA to ensure that the industry is informed and capable of making decisions quickly and effectively.

Through the industries’ publications and through weekly updates to the industry, workshops, and online, AUSVEG ensures that growers and key industry stakeholders are well briefed on biosecurity matters affecting them, as well as any plant health related issues on the national agenda.

AUSVEG regularly publicises any plant health related events that may be of particular benefit to the broader industry and participates in stakeholder consultations with PHA and other Government bodies on a regular basis to ensure it is involved and engaged on the key issues affecting the vegetable and potato industries when it comes to biosecurity and plant health.

We are committed to promoting awareness of biosecurity and biosecurity planning processes through all relevant programs operated by AUSVEG as well as promoting biosecurity best practise through all AUSVEG communication and engagement channels.
Avocado Industry Biosecurity Statement

July 2020

Avocados Australia Limited is strongly committed to ensuring the avocado industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic and international trade, regional and national economies and the environment. The avocado industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Avocados are grown in all states of Australia from far north Queensland to the south-west of Western Australia. It is a growing industry which has increased steadily in volume and value with 85,546 tonnes produced in 2018/19 with a farm gate value of approximately $444 million. Less than 5% is currently exported, but this is expected to increase as significant new plantings continue to come into production.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – AVOCADO INDUSTRY

The avocado industry through Avocados Australia Limited has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and a range of government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the avocado industry.

The Avocado National Industry Biosecurity Plan (version 3.0), consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was released in February 2020 and copies of the plan have been made available to key industry representatives.

Biosecurity for the Australian avocado industry focuses on five key areas to identify the components to be implemented through the life of the biosecurity plan 2019-2024. These five areas are:

- high priority exotic pests and established pests of biosecurity significance
- implementing biosecurity for the Australian avocado industry
- threat identification and pest risk assessments
- risk mitigation and preparedness
- response management.

A key outcome of this biosecurity plan is the identification of the exotic high priority pests (HPP), and established pests of biosecurity significance for the Australian avocado industry. The exotic HPP list and established pests of biosecurity significance will allow industry and government to better prioritise preparedness activities and will assist in the implementation of effective grower and community awareness campaigns, targeted biosecurity education and training
programs for growers, development of surveillance programs, diagnostic protocols as well as development of pest-specific mitigation activity.

It is intended the biosecurity implementation plan is revisited by the Biosecurity Reference Panel regularly during the next five years to maintain its relevance.

The plan also provides guidelines for the identification and ranking of biosecurity threats through a process of qualitative risk assessment. The primary goal is to coordinate identification of exotic pest threats that could impact productivity, or marketability.

A summary of activities to mitigate the impact of pest threats on the Australian avocado industry, along with a set of guidelines for managing risk at all operation levels has been provided. Many pre-emptive practices can be adopted by plant industries and government agencies to reduce risks.

The plan also provides a summary of the processes in place to respond to emergency plant pest incursions.

Avocados Australia Limited works with Plant Health Australia, providing appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pests Identified and Categorised</th>
<th>Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phytophthora ramorum, Bactrocera dorsalis (syn. B. invadens, B. papaya, B philippiensis)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN**

Avocados Australia Limited has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Avocados Australia Limited will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. Avocados Australia Limited will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency-based training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**

Avocados Australia Limited has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the avocado industry via participation in Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign. A section covering biosecurity forms part of the Growing section of Avocados Australia’s on-line Best Practice Resource.
OTHER ACTIVITIES

In 2019, Avocados Australia signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Plant Health Australia. The MOU establishes a mechanism for the consultation, management and implementation of services and activities to improve biosecurity for the avocado industry and commodity.

Avocados Australia regularly extends relevant biosecurity information to industry via its communication channels, including the quarterly Talking Avocados, magazine, the fortnightly Guacamole newsletter, and the well-respected Avocados Australia Best Practice Resource (www.avocado.org.au/bpr/).

Through Hort Innovation, using the avocado R&D levy, there are several biosecurity relevant projects underway:

- **Avocado Industry Biosecurity Capacity Building** (AV16010). Lead by The University of Queensland, the project team is tasked with developing new diagnostic protocols for high-risk biosecurity threats to the industry, such as avocado scab fungus *Sphaceloma perseae*, and maintaining existing diagnostic protocols for quarantinable pests and pathogens; monitoring emerging biosecurity threats and allowing rapid responses to any incursions that arise; and providing diagnostic support for other levy-funded avocado plant health projects. The researchers will also be looking at the diversity of scolytid beetles and associated fungi affecting avocados in Australia. Due for completion: November 2020

- **Review and extension of avocado arthropod pests and their management** (AV19001). Lead by IPM Technologies, this project will help avocado growers in adopting effective integrated pest management (IPM). Due for completion: September 2021

- **Avocado sunblotch viroid survey** (AV18007). Lead by The University of Queensland, this project aims to map all avocado orchards and nurseries in the country, testing thousands of trees and conducting statistical analyses to demonstrate pest-freedom of this virus at farm or regional-level, so that growers can meet export conditions and nurseries can obtain ANVAS accreditation. Due for completion: September 2021

- **Management of six-spotted mite in WA avocado orchards - Phase 2** (AV19002). Lead by the Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, this investment is delivering effective options for the integrated pest management (IPM) of six-spotted mite in avocado orchards. Beginning in 2019, it follows previous levy-funded project Pest status and management of six-spotted mite (*Eotetranychus sexmaculatus*) in WA avocado orchards (AV15012), which sought to assist growers in monitoring mite populations and implementing appropriate management techniques, as well as investigating the role that predatory mites could play during production. Due for completion: August 2022

- **Investigation into citrus blossom bugs in avocados** (AV1900). Lead by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, this investment is developing an understanding of the biology and ecology of citrus blossom bug and its impact on the Australian avocado industry. Ultimately, this project will produce a guide for growers to help them protect their crops from the insect, monitor for the bug and manage any infestations. Due for completion: July 2023.
There are also various other projects supported by the Hort Innovation Avocado Fund, including by not limited to: developing protocols for the importation of honey bee genetics, supporting the *Xylella* coordinator and preparedness research, improving productivity through disease management, and the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program.

Hort Innovation is the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australian horticulture.
Chestnut Industry Biosecurity Statement
July 2020

Chestnut Australia Inc is strongly committed to ensuring the Chestnut Industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic trade/international trade-market access/public health/food safety/regional and national economy/environment. The Chestnut Industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The Australian Chestnut industry operates principally in the southern states of Australia, including NSW, Tasmania and Victoria, plus southern areas of SA and the south western area of WA. Approximately 70 per cent of the national crop is grown in North East Victoria.

The main varieties grown are Red Spanish, Purtons Pride and De Coppi Marone. Chestnuts flower during November and December and are harvested from March through to May.

In 2020 there were around 1,300 ha containing approximately 300,000 trees with production estimated to be 1,100 tonnes. Increases will occur in coming years due to the expansion in plantings. The industry is primarily focused on the domestic market with approximately 2 per cent exported mainly to Asian markets.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – CHESTNUT INDUSTRY

The Chestnut Industry through Chestnuts Australia Inc has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), a range of government agencies including DAWE, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Agriculture Victoria and Primary Industries and Regions SA and the other nut industries of Almonds, Pistachios, Walnuts. Pecans, Hazelnuts and Macadamias to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the Chestnut Industry.

The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was officially published in January 2016 following endorsement by Government and Industry. Copies of the plan have been made available to key industry representatives of the Chestnut Australia Inc Executive Committee and placed on the industry website. Work is expected to commence on a review of the National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan 2021.
The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of twenty-four (24) exotic pests and five (5) exotic pathogens.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These Contingency Plans underpin and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section identifies a range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular pests, fact sheets have been and will continue to be developed.

The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan for Chestnuts does not include any other specific details.

In addition, one (1) national diagnostic protocol has been/are being developed for Chestnut Blight and will form part of future biosecurity plans.

Chestnuts Australia Inc will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

| Of the twenty-nine (29) pests identified in the priority pest list of the National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan, one (1) has been categorised and is listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed. |

AND

Chestnuts Australia Inc commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in Categorisation Groups to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

**NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN**

Chestnuts Australia Inc has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Chestnuts Australia Inc will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. Chestnuts Australia Inc will also ensure all
delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**

Chestnuts Australia Inc has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the Chestnut industry through the involvement with the Chestnut Blight incursion and subsequent Eradication Program.

Chestnuts Australia Inc maintains a Biosecurity section on the industry website. In addition, Chestnuts Australia Inc prepares and supplies to members a range of pest and disease and orchard sanitation technical sheets.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Chestnuts Australia Inc has employed an Industry Development Officer and one of the roles is to undertake biosecurity activities including:

- a) Representation of Chestnuts Australia Inc at relevant Plant Health Australia meetings,
- b) Prepare a draft On-Farm Biosecurity Training Manual
- c) Ongoing review the pest list within the Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan.
- d) The industry ‘front-line’ representative with the Chestnut Blight Response Plan activities

The position of the Industry Development Officer is funded through general revenue of Chestnut Australia Inc.

Chestnuts Australia Inc is in the process of engaging a Biosecurity/Surveillance Officer initially to assist with the Chestnut Blight Transition to Management program but then to continue as a medium-term resource for the Australian Chestnut Industry.
Industry Biosecurity Statement

Introduction
Citrus Australia is the national Peak Industry Body for the citrus industry. Citrus Australia is member owned company limited by guarantee, governed by a skills-based Board and supported by a staff of eleven passionate employees.

Citrus Australia is strongly committed to ensuring the citrus industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic trade and international trade, market access, regional and national economy, and the environment. The citrus industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Citrus is grown in all Australian mainland states and the Northern Territory with 27,000 Hectares of citrus planted by 1,500 producers, the citrus industry is a major contributor to regional economies. The five year average annual production is approximately 750,000 tonnes, in 2019 the crop value was $AU1 billion, around 40% (304,000 tonnes) of production was exported with a value of $AU 541 million.

Citrus is widely grown in home gardens and biosecurity preparedness includes consideration of urban and peri-urban citrus plantings.

Citrus Australia has established a Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee comprised of industry and agency members to facilitate new directions and initiatives to improve and protect the industry from exotic pest incursions and the spread of endemic pest and diseases considered of commercial importance by industry. The Committee is encouraged to challenge industry biosecurity preparedness activities with a view to constant improvement of preparedness on farm and at a state and federal government level.

Industry Biosecurity Plan – Citrus Industry
The citrus industry through Citrus Australia has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and a range of government agencies including DAWE, QDAF, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Agriculture Victoria, PIRSA/SARDI, DPIRD, and Northern Territory DPI to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the citrus industry.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Citrus Industry, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was officially published on 19th of April 2004, following endorsement by Government and industry.

Copies of the plan have been made available to key industry representatives, the Citrus Australia Board, and to members of the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee.

The plan is available on the Citrus Australia website [https://citrusaustralia.com.au/](https://citrusaustralia.com.au/).

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises of an executive summary, an introduction explaining roles, processes, the citrus industry, the EPPRD, and an overview. There are key areas including threat identification, pest risk assessments, and categorisation.

A comprehensive list of 145 citrus industry threats is detailed in Appendix 1, ([tables 21 citrus invertebrate threat summary table and 22 citrus pathogen and nematode threat summary table]) of the plan.

The priority pest list contains 21 high priority plant pest threats, 6 bacteria, 9 fruit flies, 6 other insects, and 2 viruses ([table 6 citrus Industry high priority plant pest threat list]).

Twelve citrus EPPs have been formally categorised, ([table 9 formal categories for pests of the citrus industry biosecurity as listed in the EPPRD as at August 4th 2014]).

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property/nursery levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

A range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the high priority pests is identified in the risk mitigation plan.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. Some details require updating when the plan is reviewed, Citrus Australia has current contact details.

These Contingency Plans underpin, and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

Citrus Australia maintains a matrix of Contingency Plans, National Diagnostic Protocols, and Fact Sheets for identified Citrus EPPs including international plans, protocols and other resources to assist the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests decision making in the event of an incursion.

Citrus Australia also maintain a database of national citrus plantings.

Citrus Australia will continue to work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.
**Pest Categorisation**

Of the 21 pests identified as high priority plant pest pests in the Industry Biosecurity Plan, 12 have been categorised and are listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed. Citrus Australia commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in Categorisation Groups to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

**National Decision Making Processes/Plantplan**

Citrus Australia has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Citrus Australia will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. Citrus Australia will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

**Biosecurity Awareness**

Citrus Australia has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the citrus industry and have distributed and promoted the Biosecurity Manual for Citrus Producers, Plant Health Australia *(Version 2.0 December 2014)* through national and regional forums and workshops. The manual contains an overview of biosecurity, fact sheets to identify the high priority pests of a crop, tips on crop management, and how to manage people, vehicles and equipment to minimise biosecurity risks. It also contains a biosecurity self-assessment list, and templates to record pest surveillance records and visitors.

Biosecurity information is also distributed through the industry newsletter Australian Citrus News, the Citrus Australia web page, and social media.

The April 2018 outbreak of citrus canker in Darwin and subsequently in northern Western Australia has increased biosecurity awareness and preparedness in the citrus industry.

The citrus industry believes its major threat is Huanglongbing (HLB) and its psyllid vectors, the Asian Citrus Psyllid *Diaphorina citri*, and the African Citrus Psyllid *Trioza erytreae* and much effort has been put into raising awareness of the threat. A study tour was organised to attend the VI International HLB conference in Riverside California in March 2019 and subsequent industry visits in Florida and California to see the pests, its impacts, and strategies to manage it firsthand. The tour was supported with funding from Hort Innovation Project CT 18003.

**Other Activities**

A National Citrus Surveillance Coordinator was appointed in August 2018 with funding from Plant Health Australia, Hort Innovation, and the Federal Government White Paper.
The coordinators actions have included

- Reinvigorating the First Detector Network of industry and agency people regularly in citrus orchards and providing information on exotic pests and how to report them
- Having key exotic pest threats included in the surveillance protocols for export markets
- Developing an industry led surveillance program for Asian Citrus Psyllid, initially in orchards but subsequently extended to nursery and peri-urban locations.
- Collaboration with the Agvic Urban Plant Health Network, a web based tool for engaging urban home gardeners
- Developing links to TPP surveillance programs
- Participation in the development of the Tropical Plant Industries Biosecurity Strategy and Implementation Plan
- Participation in the Huanglongbing (HLB) Task Force

Citrus Australian and Plant Health Australia are currently negotiating an MOU to manage the PHA citrus levy through projects with activity focused on delivering biosecurity outcomes for the citrus industry.
COTTON INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY STATEMENT
September 2019

Introduction
Cotton Australia recognises the need for the cotton industry to work with the federal, state and territory governments to help reduce the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests that could adversely impact on production, domestic and international trade and the regional economy and environment.

The cotton industry is committed to ensuring effective responses to pest incursions are possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The cotton industry through Cotton Australia is working with Plant Health Australia (PHA) to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the cotton industry. Valuable assistance is received from researchers and staff from CSIRO, NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI), Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF), Biosecurity Queensland, Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC), Cotton Seed Distributors (CSD), the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and, a number of Universities.

Commitments under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed

1 Cotton Industry Biosecurity Plan
The National Cotton Industry Biosecurity Plan, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was launched in November 2006 and reviewed in February 2010 (Version 2). In March 2015, CRDC funding was provided to Plant Health Australia Ltd to conduct a major review of the plan, which has been released as the Cotton Industry Biosecurity Plan Version 3.0 and is available on the Cotton Australia website.

The biosecurity plan identifies and prioritises the cotton industries biosecurity risks, and provides a framework for risk mitigation and preparedness activities. The awareness section identifies a range of existing industry processes, fact sheets and other sources of information for the identified 15 High Priority Pests (HPPs) that can be used to promote biosecurity awareness throughout the industry. The cotton Industry Biosecurity Group meets annually to maintain currency of issues,
review pest threats, identify biosecurity research and preparedness gaps, and provide oversight of industry implementation and adoption of biosecurity strategies as identified in the IBP.

2  Pest categorisation
Cotton Australia will, as far as it is within its power to do so, ensure that appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts. Cotton Australia has participated in all relevant categorisation group meetings. Currently, seven cotton industry identified Emergency Plant Pests have been categorised and are listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

3  National decision-making processes
Cotton Australia will endeavour to ensure that senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control Headquarters in the event of an incursion. Cotton Australia will also endeavour to ensure that all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training, which is being delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

4  Owner Reimbursement Costs
In association with Plant Health Australia, Cotton Australia developed the cotton Owner Reimbursement Cost (ORC) framework. This framework has been endorsed by the Cotton Australia Board, the PHA Board and Relevant Parties to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) and is available on the PHA website.

On-farm biosecurity

5  Best management practice program
The cotton Best Management Practices program (myBMP) is the core platform for delivery of best practice across the Australian Cotton Industry. The myBMP program includes a farm biosecurity module which was originally modelled on the ‘Farm Biosecurity Manual for the Cotton Industry’.

This module is designed to assist growers in protecting their farm from the introduction of endemic and exotic pests, and to help minimise the spread of pest species throughout the industry. Practices to create awareness of biosecurity risks and the process for reporting a suspected incursion are also outlined.

The biosecurity module for MyBMP was reviewed in 2019. Revisions reflect the responsibilities growers have under changed biosecurity legislation (including General Biosecurity Obligation and General Biosecurity Duty). The module provides linkages to resources available on other websites including the AHA/PHA Farm Biosecurity website, and website for the industry’s CottonInfo extension team. Further to this, links have been added to guide growers to Northern Territory and Western Australia biosecurity resources in recognition of the developing industry in Northern Australia.

6  Training
A biosecurity scenario training workshop was conducted in August 2019. Exercise Blueprint used a fictional detection of cotton blue disease on a cotton farm near Dalby, Queensland, in a range of
discussions and activities to find out how the cotton industry would respond to an incursion of this exotic pest. The main aims of the exercise were to identify how the industry would be engaged in a response and how the communication channels industry would use to ensure the right messages would reach their stakeholders.

Attendees came from a wide range of cotton industry sectors including Cotton Australia, CottonInfo, Cotton Research Development Corporations (CRDC), growers, agronomists, gin operators, researchers, extension officers, the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and NSW Department of Primary Industries. SRA participated as observers. The exercise was funded by CRDC to improve the biosecurity preparedness of the cotton industry.

7 Extension
The Australian Cotton Industry’s CottonInfo team play a key role in the development and delivery of research extension resources. The CottonInfo team includes a Biosecurity Tech Lead to help coordinate industry biosecurity extension. A number of extension activities have been delivered to industry during the 2018 – 2019 season to raise awareness and promote the adoption of on-farm biosecurity practices.

These include:

- Updating ‘Come Clean. Go Clean’ wash-down best management practice protocols to incorporate agricultural detergents and decontaminants, with plans in place to develop a Northern Australia fact sheet to support clean movement in and out of new regions.
- CottonInfo e-newsletters and CRDC Spotlight magazine articles about on-farm hygiene and biosecurity.
- A new on-farm biosecurity campaign ‘Be a good mate, Stop it at the gate’, which aims to ensure biosecurity is part of day-to-day conversations on Australian cotton farms.

- ‘Be a good mate, Stop it at the gate’ on-farm biosecurity campaign promotion at the 2018 Australian Cotton Conference.
- Seven short videos highlighting how growers, researchers and agronomists are implementing on-farm biosecurity practices. These videos have collectively been viewed over 1,000 times.

Recommendations for best biosecurity practice, including details of cotton HPPs is published annually in the CottonInfo Cotton Pest Management Guide, which is delivered to every cotton grower and pest control advisor. A recent survey of growers found that 83% of respondents attributed some assistance in improving insects, weeds, diseases, resistance & biosecurity practices to CottonInfo. This has translated to improved practice with 44 per cent of cotton growers currently have a farm biosecurity plan (identifying hazards and an action plan) with a further 19 per cent currently developing a plan.
Research and development

8 Enhanced cotton biosecurity R&D capacity

Cotton Australia is the [PIRD Act 1989] representative organisation for the cotton industry to the Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC) and as such, has a strong role in advising industry priorities for the Corporation’s R&D budget. Cotton Australia is committed to supporting proposed projects that enhance our industry’s biosecurity expertise and response preparedness.

CRDC, along with other plant-based RDCs, have continued their partnership with Plant Health Australia, and the Department of Agriculture in the Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative (PBRI). The aim of this collaboration is to coordinate biosecurity research and increase collaboration. This is demonstrated in high number of collaborative projects above.

Capacity to respond to exotic pests is supported through the inclusion of biosecurity milestones for researchers monitoring and research of endemic pests and diseases. Biosecurity research and diagnostic capacity for cotton have also been leveraged through a number of scientific exchanges. For example, in early 2019 CRDC, through partnership with US CottonInc, supported cotton pathologist, Linda Smith, QDAF, and virologist, Murray Sharman to travel to the US to participate in meetings following the confirmation of an incursion of Cotton leaf roll dwarf virus (also HPP for Australia). CRDC will also be providing support for a student from US to conduct disease research in Australia.

Recent enhancement of biosecurity capacity, capability and preparedness have been delivered by a variety of research projects which notably includes:

- CRDC is a participant in a collaborative project, Digital technologies for dynamic management of disease, stress and yield led by Wine Australia, with funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources as part of its Rural R&D for Profit programme. The project includes developing a molecular tool for quantifying Australian strains of Verticillium dahliae in soil and developing improved disease management recommendations from improved analysis of historical and current disease surveys. These surveys also provide proof of absence for HPP exotic diseases.

- CRDC is a participant in a collaborative project Improving Plant Pest Management Through Cross Industry Deployment of Smart Sensor, Diagnostic and Forecasting led by Horticulture Innovation Australia, with funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources as part of its Rural R&D for Profit programme. This project should deliver an advanced plant pest surveillance network which will monitor and report on endemic and exotic threats to major primary production industries, including grains, cotton, horticulture, wine and forestry.

- Through the CRDC funded project with QDAF, ‘Surveillance and studies for endemic and exotic virus diseases of cotton’ the industry has forged stronger connectivity between the cotton industry and surveillance activities in northern Australia by Northern Australian Quarantine Strategy (NAQS, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources). This has led to greater understanding about the diversity of cotton leaf roll virus particularly in near neighbour regions such as Timor Leste and the risk to Australian cotton in terms of resistance breaking strains. This project is also responsible for viral surveys for major cotton growing regions.
- A UQ PhD, *Biology of Amaranthus hybridus, A. mitchelli, and A. powelii: emerging weeds of cotton systems*, seeks to understand endemic Amaranthus in cotton regions, in preparation for an incursion of Palmer amaranth, a biosecurity threat because of its resistance to multiple herbicide mode of action groups and significant impact on cotton farming systems in the US.

- CRDC has partnered with Horticulture Innovation Australia on a UQ lead project *Novel topical vegetable and cotton virus protection with BioClay*. This project aims to minimise the economic impact of pest infestation on vegetables and on cotton through the development of an innovative topical protection medium, BioClay. The high-tech BioClay spray uses nanotechnology to deliver double-stranded RNA, which is anticipated to prime the plant’s own defences, similar to the way a vaccine works, and helping the plant to naturally attack specific crop pests and pathogens. A key target in this project is to investigate how this type of technology could support the cotton industry to minimise the impact of exotic viruses, particularly cotton leaf curl virus. Cotton leaf curl virus is a major threat, as Australian varieties are highly susceptible and the whitefly vector is already widespread.

- The potential emerging cotton industry in Northern Australia is supported through the CRDC supported project *Science leadership for cotton development in Northern Australia*, lead by CSIRO. This project coordinate activities, including extension of past research while providing technical support to new and recent commercial cotton investments in tropical Australia. Through QDAF collaboration the project is also providing assessment and support for crop protection risks unique to Northern systems such as Spodoptera litura and conducting advice and monitoring to reduce the risk of Northern pests such as pink bollworm establishing in Eastern cotton regions.

9 Pest Surveillance

Numerous pest surveys and crop monitoring activities are undertaken each season by cotton industry and State government researchers. Formal alignment of monitoring protocols for high priority exotic pests by all researchers now enables the collection widespread surveillance data throughout NSW and Queensland annually during routine benchmarking of endemic diseases (NSW DPI and DAF early and late season disease surveys). Viral surveys of major commercial areas and Northern Australia are conducted annually as part of the project ‘*Surveillance and studies for endemic and exotic virus diseases of cotton*’.

Most cotton growers employ consulting agronomists who generally conduct twice weekly crop inspections for pests. In a survey of these consultants, 40 respondents reported spending significant 1558 hours on biosecurity, including cleaning down of vehicles and equipment, investigating/ reporting unusual pest/ plant symptoms and completing training/ farm inductions. The Crop Consultants Association regularly includes biosecurity issues in their annual meetings. In addition to agronomist monitoring, CRDC funded the resistance monitoring programs for SLW (with Qld DAF), *H.armigera*, aphid and mites (with NSW DPI) provide dual purpose of informing industry of any developing resistance issues, as well as monitoring for unusual resistance profiles and exotic pests.
Dried Fruits Australia Inc – Biosecurity Statement

July 2020

Dried Fruits Australia Inc is strongly committed to ensuring the dried vine fruit industry is effective in reducing the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic trade, international trade, market access and the environment. The dried vine fruit industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur, are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Dried vine fruit is grown predominantly in the Mildura-Wentworth and Swan Hill regions of Victoria and New South Wales, along with the Riverland of South Australia. The industry has a farmgate value of $40 million with exports of approximately 40% of the average 17,000 tonnes per annum produced.

Industry Biosecurity Plan – The Viticulture Industry

As part of the viticulture industry, Dried Fruits Australia, has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and a range of government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the viticulture industry sectors.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four key sections. The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of 45 pests and exotic pathogens. The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional, and vineyard level to ensure the exclusion/management of serious pests. The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key contacts and communication procedures for all affected viticultural industry sectors, including dried vine fruit, along with relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These contingency plans underpin and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. The awareness section identifies fact sheets for the high priority pest identified, general biosecurity awareness materials and contacts for further information on viticultural biosecurity. Dried Fruits Australia Inc will continue to work with Plant Health Australia and other viticultural industry sectors and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

Pest Categorisation

The Viticulture Industry Biosecurity Plan (version 4.0), consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was finalised in 2020 and made available to industry stakeholders. Of the pests identified in the priority list of the National Viticultural Industry Biosecurity Plan, 13 have been categorised and are listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.
NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

Dried Fruits Australia Inc has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage an agreed response to an EPP. Dried Fruits Australia has and will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. Dried Fruits Australia has also ensured all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

Dried Fruits Australia Inc has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the dried vine fruits industry via participation in Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign. The latest Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Viticulture Industry version will be uploaded to the Dried Fruits Australia website when available late 2020. Dried Fruits Australia participates in events on biosecurity issues for the viticultural industry to ensure that the industry is informed and capable of making decisions quickly and effectively. Dried Fruits Australia is committed to promoting awareness of biosecurity issues via updates to industry through workshops, Currant News (fortnightly email newsletter), the Vine Magazine (quarterly industry magazine) and the Annual Grower Forum, along with any specific or urgent updates provided via social media.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Dried Fruits Australia is committed to biosecurity management. This has resulted in the agreement by industry of a Biosecurity Levy which will be set at $1/tonne being utilised for training and management of biosecurity issues. This is currently going through an implementation process being facilitated by DAWR.

Dried Fruits Australia is working on a review of the current Biosecurity Manual for the viticultural industry to more specifically tailor it to industry needs along with ensuring all appropriate and relevant Biosecurity Industry Standard Operating Procedures are reviewed and in place. In conjunction with this Dried Fruits Australia is reviewing the suitability and implementation of the framework involved in Owner Reimbursement Costs ensuring appropriateness for industry requirements.

Currently, Dried Fruits Australia is a member of the Plant Industry Forum committee and also participated in the categorisation of BMSB.
BACKGROUND

The grains industry is the largest of the Australian plant based agricultural industries worth between $9.0 - $12.0 billion annually.

Whilst the Australian grains industry has robust biosecurity measures in place, international trade, tourism and mail exchange increases the possibly of emergency plant pest (EPP) incursions, posing an on-going challenge to the maintenance of Australia's favourable quarantine status.

Grain Producers Australia (GPA), on behalf of all Australian grain producers, strongly supports the notion that responsibility for maintaining a robust quarantine and biosecurity continuum must be shared between Australian Governments, industry and the entire community.

The grains industry is committed to working with government and the broader plant industries to continually improve Australian biosecurity arrangements. Decision making frameworks and operational mechanisms for responding to EPP incursions, when they do occur, must be in place, well communicated, effective and responsive.

GPA seeks to minimise the threat of EPP occurrences by advocating for increased surveillance activities, strong quarantine measures, encouraging systems which support early detection and reporting to increase the probability of successful eradication, decrease containment costs and maintain access to important export markets.

GRAINS INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLANNING

GPA, and its members, collaborate with Plant Health Australia (PHA), the Commonwealth Government and Australian States/Territories and commits to the comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the grains industry.

The National Grains Industry Biosecurity Plan Version 3.0 July 2015 (The Plan) is the framework used to coordinate activities and investment in grains industry biosecurity mechanisms.

The Plan is comprised of four key sections:

1. Threat identification, pest risk assessment and categorisation:

The threat identification, pest risk assessment and categorisation process supports the drafting of a priority pest list through the identification and analysis of exotic grain pests and pathogens. Pest lists have thus far been devised for all 25 leviable grain crops.

Pest Risk Reviews (PRR) have been completed for 54 priority grains pests providing more detailed information on the biology of individual priority pests, potential hosts, overseas distributions, symptoms, entry-establishment/spread potentials and likely economic and environmental impacts.
2. Risk mitigation plan:

The Risk Mitigation plan outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies including quarantine, surveillance, training and awareness that can be employed at the national, state, regional and property levels to help ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests. It also includes information on the Grains Farm Biosecurity Program.

3. Contingency planning and response management:

The Contingency Plans and Response Management Procedures section includes details relating to the management, control and eradication of specific grain pest threats. These Contingency Plans will underpin, and will be used in conjunction with, the general management structures of PLANTPLAN, a nationally consistent pest response framework. In addition, diagnostic standards, which will form part of future biosecurity plans, are currently available or being developed for 54 identified priority grain pests.

4. Threat summary tables:

The threat summary tables provide analysis of 600 exotic plant pests and the risks they pose to the grains industry

Also included in the document are existing fact sheets or other sources of awareness material for high priority pests. Where fact sheets or other awareness materials are not available, and a pest has been determined to be a priority these will be developed. Awareness materials promoting practical on-farm biosecurity measures are also included in the document as well as being separately circulated throughout the grains industry when the need arises.

GPA will continue to work with PHA to maintain a comprehensive Grains Industry Biosecurity Plan and will endeavour to ensure that resources necessary for the development, maintenance and review of the Biosecurity Plan remain available.

PEST CATEGORISATION

Fourteen exotic grains pests have been categorised for inclusion in the Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses. GPA has committed to providing appropriate industry technical experts necessary to participate in meetings of the Categorisation Group.

PLANTPLAN: A NATIONALLY CONSISTENT RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

GPA has endorsed PLANTPLAN, the agreed technical Response Plan used by jurisdictions and industry to provide a nationally consistent framework for responding to emergency plant pests and diseases. GPA will use this document to work with government parties and other industry stakeholders in managing agreed EPP responses.

GPA will ensure qualified senior industry delegates are available to participate in all meetings of the Consultative Committee on EPPs or the National Management Group, and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control Headquarters. GPA will also ensure that these delegates participate in relevant competency (and non-competency) based training to be delivered through PHA’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.
BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

GPA funds a biosecurity outreach program, the Grains Farm Biosecurity Program, managed by PHA and delivered by grains biosecurity officers in each grain producing state. The program raises awareness to help improve practices on farm and boost preparedness to manage biosecurity threats.

Throughout 2019, the grain industry through GPA worked with PHA to develop a strategy for post border grain biosecurity. The program will focus on surveillance and building capacity to respond to potential biosecurity threats. It is expected to be implemented in 2020.


GPA also promotes the importance of plant health via a number of mediums including:

- the Grains Farm Biosecurity program,
- the GPA website,
- GPA member newsletters and media releases where appropriate,
- GPA Grains Policy Council meetings,
- GPA Annual Report,
- Public presentations outlining the biosecurity activities affecting the grains industry during appropriate industry forums, and
- By providing information to our State Farming Organisation (SFO) members for distribution to their members.

GPA and its members are also involved in promoting grains industry biosecurity initiatives via participation in PHA’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign. Regular articles relating to exotic grain pests and potential risk mitigation techniques are featured in the Australian grains industry magazine *Ground Cover* and promotional material has been distributed via GPA members and rural media.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) is active in developing and promoting solutions for minimising the prevalence of impacts of EPPs and diseases within the production environment. While targeted solutions would normally be pest specific, the grains industry promotes the following generic risk mitigation techniques:

- use of pathogen free planting material
- sowing of pest resistant crop varieties
- tillage practices that reduce the potential spread of pests and disease
- use of dedicated equipment in high risk areas
- reporting the presence of diseased plants or unusual pests
- control of alternative hosts and weeds
- chemical pest control technologies
- integrated pest management
- destruction of crop residues
- crop rotation
- decontamination of vehicles, machinery, tools, recycled bins and clothing
- restricted movement of equipment, people and vehicles where appropriate
- application of quality assurance systems
- warning and information signs
- quarantine/biosecurity education of personnel
GPA remains committed to providing input into Commonwealth quarantine reviews, import risk analyses, prohibited/permitted plant lists, import/export conditions, inspection procedures, risk mitigation protocols, the structure of the national quarantine framework and other grains related biosecurity issues as they arise.

In addition, GPA will, through direct engagement with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, continue to provide input with regard to Australia’s international biosecurity obligations under WTO agreements.
Nursery Industry Biosecurity Statement

Greenlife Industry Australia (GIA) is the peak industry body representing the nursery industry in Australia and in partnership with state peak industry bodies (NGI’s) is responsible for overseeing the national development of the Australian nursery industry. Nursery production is a significant member of the horticultural sector growing more than 10 000 individual plant species/cultivars supplying greenlife/nursery stock to the Australian food, fibre and foliage industries.

GIA, with the state and territory NGI’s, represents all sectors of the industry including producers (growers), wholesalers, retailers, allied traders and consultants. This close association with the entire supply chain allows GIA to lead and educate industry on the importance of biosecurity as well as contribute to the development of preparedness and risk management strategies along the entire biosecurity continuum.

The industry is estimated to be valued nationally at $6 billion and employs some 45,000 FTE in more than 20,000 small to medium sized businesses. The production sector is broad based and established in every state/territory with many and varying target markets that have an estimated national annual value exceeding $14 billion including:

Nursery Production Horticultural Supply Chains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Production Nursery</th>
<th>Horticultural markets</th>
<th>Economic value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Container stock</td>
<td>Ornamental/urban horticulture</td>
<td>$2 billion retail value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foliage plants</td>
<td>Interior-scapes</td>
<td>$87 million industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seedling stock</td>
<td>Vegetable growers</td>
<td>$3.3 billion industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry stock</td>
<td>Plantation timber</td>
<td>$1.7 billion industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit and nut tree stock</td>
<td>Orchardists (citrus, mango, etc)</td>
<td>$5.2 billion industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape stock</td>
<td>Domestic &amp; commercial projects</td>
<td>$2 billion industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plug and tube stock</td>
<td>Cut flower</td>
<td>$319 million industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revegetation stock</td>
<td>Farmers, government, landcare</td>
<td>$109 million industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mine revegetation</td>
<td>Mine site rehabilitation</td>
<td>Value unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Horticultural Market Value $14.5 billion

1 Data sourced from Market Monitor, 2 Data sourced from Horticultural Handbook 2004, 3 Data sourced from ABARE 2008 & 4 Data sourced from industry

GIA is strongly committed to ensuring the nursery industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests (EPP’s) that could adversely impact on domestic and international trade, the regional and national economy and the Australian environment through information, education, research and risk reduction strategies. The nursery industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.
The Australian nursery industry has a creditable and long history of engagement and cooperation with both national and state biosecurity agencies across Australia. GIA is committed to the on-going development of a harmonised national biosecurity system that is capable of protecting Australia from EPP’s, operates with the principle of ‘shared responsibility’ and is aimed at facilitating trade through appropriate market access instruments.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – NURSERY INDUSTRY

The nursery industry, through GIA, has worked with Plant Health Australia and a range of government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks associated with nursery production.

The National Nursery Industry Biosecurity Plan was initially completed in May 2005 and announced to industry. The plan was reviewed in 2007/2008 (Version 2.0) and again in 2012/2013, with the National Nursery Industry Biosecurity Plan Version 3.0 released to industry in May 2013. In 2020 the Plan began its next review and it is expected for release by mid 2021. Copies of the existing plan have been made available to key industry representatives including the State Peak Industry Bodies and the Nursery Industry Development Officer network.

The National Nursery Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The Threat Identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of 83 exotic invertebrate pests listed under 6 separate headings and 64 exotic pathogens grouped within 6 individual categories.

There are also 7 completed Pest Risk Reviews that provide more detailed information on the biology of individual priority pests, potential hosts, overseas distribution, symptoms, entry/establishment/spread potential and likely economic and environmental impacts of the pest.

The Risk Mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and individual production nursery level to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests. The plan describes the industry’s robust and well structured biosecurity on-farm risk management program that includes a Best Management Practice scheme (NIASA) and the rigorous grower applied plant protection and biosecurity instrument (BioSecure HACCP).

BioSecure HACCP is the on-farm plant protection and biosecurity program developed for production nurseries in Australia. The program validates many of the Best Management Practice strategies employed under the best management practice program Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme Australia (NIASA). BioSecure HACCP seeks to identify internal and external threats to the integrity of a business’s plant protection and biosecurity preparedness and mitigate these through a systems approach based on exclusion, inspection, treatment and monitoring.

BioSecure HACCP is a set of protocols and procedures that enables a business to manage plant protection and biosecurity risks, establishing an effective internal quarantine process for both imported and exported plant material. The program
has an electronic data storage protocol that enhances on-farm record keeping through digitised record templates and traceability with the system allowing for electronic market access certification.

The BioSecure HACCP risk management system encourages a business to maintain the strictest internal plant protection and quarantine procedures possible and record the actions taken at critical control points. With improved hazard analysis and control measures in place the business is better protected in the event of a plant protection and biosecurity threat or impact. Importantly, the process supports market access both domestically and internationally. BioSecure HACCP is a key component of the industry wide risk mitigation strategy designed to operate at a grower level addressing issues such as monitoring and surveillance, traceability, access restrictions, import/despatch inspections and treating plant material.

BioSecure HACCP has attained operational status across all Australian states as a legal market access instrument sitting alongside the two government programs of Plant Heath Inspections and Interstate Certification Assurance arrangements for domestic movement of nursery stock. With the biosecurity agencies of QLD, NSW, VIC, TAS, SA and WA having put in place the authorities to recognise BioSecure HACCP Biosecurity Certificates (BHBC) and approved pest specific Entry Condition Compliance Procedures (ECCP’s) growers are certifying nursery stock for interstate trade.

The Contingency Plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. This has been recently updated to reflect changes in GIA and State Associations personnel.

The Nursery Industry Biosecurity Plan presently includes a general contingency plan. GIA has developed twenty threat specific Emergency Plant Pest Contingency Plans for a number of key threatening pests, as itemised below, which will put the industry in a strong position to effectively react to and manage a potential incursion of any one of these pests. On-going review/updating and development of threat specific contingency plans will be an activity that the industry will continue to fund under its national R&D program.

Threatening Pest Contingency Plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Biological Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sudden Oak Death</td>
<td>Phytophthora ramorum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guava or Eucalyptus Rust</td>
<td>Puccina psidii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huanglongbing (Citrus greening)</td>
<td>Candidatus Liberibacter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longicorn beetles</td>
<td>Anolophora chinensis and A. mafasiaca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glassy Winged Sharp Shooter</td>
<td>Homalodisca coagulate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gypsy moth</td>
<td>Lymantria dispar dispar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poinsettia thrips</td>
<td>Echinothrips americanus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serpentine leaf miner</td>
<td>Liriomyza huidobrensis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitefly transmitted viruses</td>
<td>Bermisia tabaci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aphid transmitted viruses</td>
<td>Plum pox potyvirus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tobacco etch virus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pierce’s disease</td>
<td>Xylella fastidiosa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarnished plant bug</td>
<td>Lygus lineolaris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrips transmitted viruses</td>
<td>Crysanthemum stem necrosis virus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tomato spotted wilt virus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Impatiens necrotic spot virus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pelargonium flower break virus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fireblight</td>
<td>Erwinia amylovora</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Giant African Snail (GAS)  
Achatina fulica

Dutch Elm Disease (DED)  
Ophiostoma ulmi and Ophiostoma novo-ulmi

Southern Red Mite  
Oligonychus ilicis

Exotic Invasive Ants  
Camponotus, Myrmica, Solenopsis, etc.

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug  
Halyomorpha halys

Black Bean Aphid  
Aphis fabae

The Threat Specific Contingency Plans described above will underpin, and be used in conjunction with, the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The **Awareness Material** section identifies a range of existing sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets are available on particular pests, these were developed and published via the nursery industry communications program and are available to industry at [http://nurseryproductionfms.com.au/](http://nurseryproductionfms.com.au/). The plan currently contains references to pest specific nursery papers on Fire Ants, Western Flower Thrips, Southern Red Mite, Ahs Whitefly, Silver Leaf Whitefly, Chalara, and one on controlling downy mildew.

GIA will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and annual reviews of the plan. The next review of the plan is due to be conducted in 2020.

During 2010 GIA worked with Plant Health Australia to develop a “Biosecurity Manual for the Nursery Production Industry” that can be used to introduce the fundamentals of biosecurity to growers across Australia. The manual identifies the basic ways to protect a production nursery, introduces the on-farm program BioSecure HACCP, and discusses particular issues around pests, product and water management, people, equipment and vehicles. The document closes with Fact sheets covering 6 key threatening pest species and examples of important recording templates such as Visitor, Materials Import Inspection, Vehicle Inspection and Crop Monitoring records.

In early 2016 GIA launched a technical website which houses the biosecurity page at [http://nurseryproductionfms.com.au/](http://nurseryproductionfms.com.au/) that has a range of industry specific information including the Nursery Industry Biosecurity Plan, Pest Management Plans and Factsheets, Nursery Papers, EPPRD and the on-farm program BioSecure HACCP. By the end of 2019 there have been 20 Pest Contingency Plans lodged on the site.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

Of the over 100 pests and diseases identified in the priority pest list of the Nursery Industry Biosecurity Plan, 37 have been formally categorised for inclusion in the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed under Schedule 13.

GIA commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.
NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

GIA has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP. GIA will encourage all stakeholders to initiate PLANTPLAN at the initial stage of an emergency response and apply the principles at all levels and throughout the eradication phase.

GIA will endeavour to ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control Headquarters. GIA will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training to be delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

GIA has defined and established an internal biosecurity decision making process, as outlined in the Contingency Plans and Response Management Arrangements section, that aims to engage at all levels of the industry and provide timely advice in an emergency situation.

In the 2013 review of the Industry Biosecurity Plan GIA clearly defined its internal biosecurity structure and reporting processes as demonstrated in the flow diagram below:
BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

GIA has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the nursery industry via participation in Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign. This includes issuing invitations for state agriculture departments, NAQS, BA, PHA, DAWR, and other experts to make presentations on plant health/quarantine/biosecurity issues at events such as national and state conferences, industry field days, and as part of industry pest and disease workshops. GIA also includes regular Biosecurity and plant health updates, as well as information on specific threats or incursions in the industry electronic newsletter ‘Your Levy at Work’, via the national and state NGI magazines and on the industry website www.greenlifeindustry.com.au.

GIA, with funding under the Nursery Products Levy and the Commonwealth Government, has established a National Nursery Industry Biosecurity Program and assigned a National Biosecurity Manager to provide oversight across this critical
area. The National Biosecurity Manager is involved in a range of areas associated with the national biosecurity continuum including; technical expertise and management advice to GIA in the implementation of the IBP, on-farm program development and implementation (BioSecure HACCP), state and national preparedness and incursion management, biosecurity R&D needs plus pre and post border strategy review. The National Biosecurity Manager represents the nursery industry on a number of committee’s forums and groups including IBP working group, the EPPRD Categorisation Group, PHA liaison, IRG’s and the CCEPP plus will undertake the role of Industry Liaison Coordinator when required.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The National Nursery Industry Biosecurity Program, funded through Hort Innovation using industry levy funds and the commonwealth government, has expanded to cover much of Australia with Plant Protection Officers located in QLD, NSW, VIC and WA and the National Biosecurity Manager based in QLD. The program is actively engaging growers across all states and territories in on-farm plant protection and biosecurity improvements and procedural changes that will deliver a robust biosecurity system at a production level. The program is also working with stakeholders to investigate the role industry can play in our national surveillance system ensuring the process is cost neutral, the data is relevant and easy to capture.

GIA continues to invest in the inclusion of relevant and up to date plant health and Biosecurity information within the Australian Plant Production Standard (APPS) as seen in the addition of a stand alone biosecurity certification program (BioSecure HACCP). This includes the development and review of industry training in relevant areas including Integrated Pest Management, Chemical Handling and BioSecure HACCP. In 2016 GIA began developing the on-line eLearning platform (http://nurseryproductionfms.com.au) which has continued to expand in course content addressing biosecurity issues, procedures and processes plus videos and supporting text’s on pest management.

GIA continues to be involved in various committees, workshops and teleconferences related to the implementation of the Nursery Industry Biosecurity Plan and the EPPRD. Since 2006 this has included participating either directly or indirectly in more than 26 Pest Categorisation Group Meetings for relevant pests being reviewed by other industries. Further activities include participation in more than 50 biosecurity workshops and forums plus over 200 Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pest (CCEPP) meetings.

NGIQ, in partnership with Hort Innovation, initiated a project in 2008 to convert paper based pest & disease identification resources into an electronic format suitable for use on portable handheld computers/devices (e.g. tablets, notebooks and mobile phones). NGIQ continues to provide additions/updates to this product including information on EPP’s that threaten our borders thereby supporting industry wide surveillance. In 2013 this information was converted into a web based database and information platform for use on PC’s, tablets and mobile phones. The database is being continuously built with additional pest information and images being added throughout each year. The Pest ID Tool is now available at; http://pestid.com.au
GIA has developed a Virtual Reality (VR) crop monitoring and surveillance training module delivering an interactive immersive training program for growers and staff. Growers are able to access the training module, via a PC/VR Goggles combination or as a virtual reality (VR) experience through portable VR goggles, for a fully immersive training experience. The module has been built around a production nursery cropping system with key pests within the crop to suit the training needs of the grower/staff. The module also draws upon detection based on sampling methodology and the grower’s ability to implement the crop monitoring procedure. GIA has made the training module available for growers through the GIA extension network (Oculus RIFT) and via portable VR system (Oculus Quest) for regional businesses access.
Hazelnut Industry Biosecurity Statement
July 2020

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc is strongly committed to ensuring the Hazelnut Industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic trade/international trade/market access/public health/food safety/regional and national economy/environment. The Hazelnut Industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Hazelnuts are grown in the temperate areas of south-eastern Australia. The main production regions are the Central Tablelands of New South Wales around Orange, Narrandera, and north-east Victoria around Myrtleford. They are also grown in central and eastern Victoria and increasingly in northern Tasmania. There are small levels of production in South Australia and Western Australia.

Australia has recently seen a major on-farm investment in hazelnuts from by Ferrero/Agri Australis (a northern hemisphere confectionary manufacturer) with 1 million trees across 1,900 hectares being planted. This confirms that the opportunities for Australian hazelnuts are large, giving renewed confidence to Australian growers.

In 2020, hazelnut production was valued at $4.7 million (LVP). The industry is set for rapid expansion — there are approximately 2,500 hectares planted, consisting of around 1.2 million trees. The industry estimates hazelnut production in 2020 will be 5,500 tonnes with a value of $40 million. Area under production is about 2,500 hectares (including Agri Australis) including young orchards yet to come into commercial bearing. Production is about 300 tonne in-shell, which is expected to increase as new orchards begin producing commercial quantities.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – HAZELNUT INDUSTRY
The Hazelnut Industry through the Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), a range of government agencies including DAWE, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Agriculture Victoria and Primary Industries and Regions SA and the other nut industries of Almonds, Pistachios, Walnuts, Pecans, Chestnuts and Macadamias to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the Hazelnut Industry.
The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan, consistent with PHA’s *National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines*, was officially published in January 2016 following endorsement by Government and Industry. Copies of the plan have been made available to key industry representatives of the Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc Executive Committee and placed on the industry website. Work is expected to commence on a review of the National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan in 2021.

The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of thirty-two (32) exotic pests and thirty (30) exotic pathogens.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These Contingency Plans underpin and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section identifies a range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular pests, fact sheets have been and will continue to be developed.

The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan for Hazelnuts does not include any other specific details.

In addition, no national diagnostic protocols have been developed.

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

Of the sixty-two (62) pests identified in the priority pest list of the National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan, one (1) has been categorised and is listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

AND

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in Categorisation Groups to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.
NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres.

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the Hazelnut industry through the involvement with the Hazelnut Mite incursion and subsequent industry surveys and the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug incursions and eradication programs.

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc maintains a Biosecurity section on the industry website.

In addition, Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc prepares and supplies to members a range of pest and disease and orchard sanitation technical sheets.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc has employed a Communications Officer and one of the roles is to undertake biosecurity activities including:

a) Representation of Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc at relevant Plant Health Australia meetings,
b) Prepare a draft On-Farm Biosecurity Training Manual
c) Ongoing review the pest list within the Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan.

The position of the Communications Officer is funded through general revenue of Hazelnut Growers of Australia Inc.
Onion Industry Biosecurity Statement

July 2020

Onions Australia is strongly committed to ensuring the onion industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on a range of issues, including domestic and international trade, market access, public health, food safety and the Australian environment.

The onion industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Onions are grown in most states of Australia, but South Australia and Tasmania together produce 71 per cent of the Australian crop. Key onion production locations are the Lockyer Valley in Queensland, north-eastern regions of South Australia and the Adelaide plains, and the Devonport/ Launceston region of Tasmania. The total area planted to onions is largest in South Australia, as is the average planting per farm.

The main type of onion grown in Australia is the traditional brown onion, which accounts for 79 per cent of fresh production. Onion production is during late spring, summer and autumn. Planting starts around April through September, harvesting from August to March, and storage supplies the market for the winter months.

The onion industry is covered by version 3.1 of the onion biosecurity plan. A biosecurity manual for growers was produced and launched in 2018.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – ONION INDUSTRY

The onion industry through Onions Australia is working with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and a range of government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the onion industry.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan for the onion industry, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was officially published in October 2018 following endorsement by Government and Industry. Copies of the plan have been made available to key industry representatives. Work is expected to commence on a review of the National Onion Industry Biosecurity Plan in 2023.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.
The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of numerous exotic pests and exotic pathogens.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers.

These Contingency Plans underpin, and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section identifies a range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular pests, fact sheets were developed.

Onions Australia will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

Onions Australia commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in Categorisation Groups to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

**NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN**

Onions Australia has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Onions Australia will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. Onions Australia will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**

Onions Australia has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the onion industry. Biosecurity information features regularly at our national conferences, and in our written communications with growers – including our annual magazine and monthly enewsletters.
Pistachio Industry Biosecurity Statement
July 2020

Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc is strongly committed to ensuring the Pistachio Industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic trade/international trade/market access/public health/food safety/regional and national economy/environment. The Pistachio Industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The major production areas are along the Murray River Valley between Swan Hill, Victoria and Waikerie, South Australia. Further plantings are in central west Victoria and Pinnaroo, South Australia. There are also a small number of growers in central New South Wales; southern Victoria and Western Australia but only produce very small yields. A central commercial processing facility is at Robinvale in Victoria.

The pistachio industry includes a mix of medium-sized and smaller operations. The bulk of the crop is produced on medium-sized orchards.
In 2019, the area under pistachio production had increase to 1,100 hectares. It is estimated that by 2020 pistachio production could average 3,000 tonnes a year ($30 million).
The industry is expanding with new plantings of about 150 to 200 hectares per annum for each of the last few years.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – PISTACHIO INDUSTRY

The Pistachio Industry through the Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), a range of government agencies including DAWE, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Agriculture Victoria and Primary Industries and Regions SA and the other nut industries of Almonds, Hazelnuts, Walnuts, Pecans, Chestnuts and Macadamias to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the Pistachio Industry.

The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was officially published in January 2016 following endorsement by Government and Industry. Copies of the plan have been made available to key industry representatives of the Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc Executive Committee and placed on the industry website. Work is expected to commence on a review of the National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan in 2021.
The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of thirty (30) exotic pests and eleven (11) exotic pathogens.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These Contingency Plans underpin and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section identifies a range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular pests, fact sheets have been and will continue to be developed.

The National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan for Pistachios does not include any other specific details.

In addition, no national diagnostic protocols have been developed.

Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

Of the forty-one (41) pests identified in the priority pest list of the National Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan, one (1) has been categorised and is listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

**AND**

Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in Categorisation Groups to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.

**NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN**

Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on
Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres.

Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**

Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the Pistachio Industry through the involvement with the Khapra Beetle incursions and eradication programs.

Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc maintains a Biosecurity section on the industry website.

In addition, Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc prepares and supplies to members a range of pest and disease and orchard sanitation technical sheets.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc has employed an Executive Officer and one of the roles is to undertake biosecurity activities including:

a) Representation of Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc at relevant Plant Health Australia meetings,

b) Prepare a draft On-Farm Biosecurity Training Manual

c) Ongoing review the pest list within the Nut Industry Biosecurity Plan.

The position of the Executive Officer is funded through general revenue of Pistachio Growers’ Association Inc.
Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers Ltd. (Growcom) Biosecurity Statement

July 2020

Background

Growcom as the peak industry body for pineapples is strongly committed to ensuring the pineapple industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on the viability of pineapples domestically.

The pineapple industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

The majority of pineapple production occurs in Queensland. The market for pineapples is predominantly domestic with minimal exports. Production in 2019 was 72,360 tonnes valued at $53M. Production for the fresh fruit market was 49,227 tonnes (68% of production) with the remaining 23,133 tonnes (32% of produce) sent for processing as tinned fruit or juice.

Industry Biosecurity Plan – Pineapple Industry

The pineapple industry through Growcom is working with Plant Health Australia, and the Australian Government and Biosecurity Queensland, to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the pineapple industry.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Pineapple Industry Version 2.0, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was officially updated in January 2016, and copies of the plan have been made available to key industry representatives from the Australian Pineapples committee.

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of more than 110 exotic pests and pathogens. The majority of these exotic pests and pathogens have been deemed to have negligible overall risk to the Australian industry.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests. For local pests, these activities include pest management and farm hygiene, as well as equipment and vehicle management by growers. Growers are being encouraged to undertake the Hort360 risk management best practice program which includes biosecurity modules. This allows growers to assess their level of risk for biosecurity issues and take steps to minimise that risk with behavioural improvements.
The industry relies heavily on boarder protection and Import Risk Assessments for international imports, as Australia has few of the major pests and diseases that plague other pineapple producing nations.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These plans are generic and not for any specified pest situation. These Contingency Plans underpin, and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section identifies a range of high priority pests tabled in the priority pest list. The Industry has the Pineapple problem solver field guide (2015) produced by QDAF which has a section for exotic pests and diseases. However, this only deals with 5 of the more than 110 identified exotic pests and diseases as they are deemed to have the greatest overall risk to industry.

Growcom as the Peak Industry Body for Pineapples will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**Pest Categorisation**

Of the 110+ pests identified in the priority pest list of the National Industry Biosecurity Plan, only 1 has been categorised and listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed. This is false codling moth, which is a category 2 pest under the Deed.

**National Decision Making Processes/PLANTPLAN**

Growcom has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Growcom will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State Pest Control Headquarters. Growcom will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant competency and non-competency based training to be delivered through Plant Health Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

**Biosecurity Awareness**

Growcom has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the pineapple industry via participation in Pineapple Study Groups. These meetings have discussed plans particularly for incursion of Bacterial Fruit Collapse and the ability to recognise the signs of its presence in a crop.

We have issued invitations for relevant government agencies and, other experts to provide information on plant health, quarantine and biosecurity for publication and presentation at industry forums. Information on the Pineapple Industry Biosecurity Plan has been extended to growers via research project reports and activities, workshops, industry events and through our web page and newsletters.

Growcom is also promoting awareness of biosecurity and the biosecurity planning process through industry training and accreditation programs, Integrated Pest Management and chemical/pesticide courses, and Farmcare, Freshcare and other quality assurance programs.
Raspberry and Blackberry Industry Biosecurity Statement
July 2020

Raspberries and Blackberries Australia (RABA) is strongly committed to ensuring that the Australian Rubus industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic and international trade, market access, and regional and national economies. The Rubus industry is also committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Rubus are grown in all states, with major production areas including the Yarra Valley in Victoria, Tasmania, the Sunshine Coast and the Granite belt in Queensland, the Swan district and South West of Western Australia, and the Adelaide Hills. In 2019 the Australian Rubus industry produced 9,478 tonnes, with a farm gate value of $207 million. Export accounts for less than 1% of production, with 8 tonnes exported at a value of $0.1 million.

The industry, through RABA, is working with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and state and federal government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the Rubus industry.

Commitments under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Rubus industry, has been reviewed and updated, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, in 2019-20, as a combined plan for the Berry sector. This will be endorsed by industry in 2020. Copies of the plan will be made available to key industry representatives.

RABA will work with PHA and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and review of the Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Berry Sector.

The biosecurity plan identifies and prioritises the Rubus industry biosecurity risks, and provides a framework for risk mitigation and preparedness activities. The threat identification section has involved the development of a high priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of 9 exotic pests and 3 exotic pathogens of Rubus berries.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.
The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These Contingency Plans, where available, underpin, and will be used in conjunction with, the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The biosecurity plan identifies a range of existing fact sheets and other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list, that can be used to promote biosecurity awareness throughout the industry.

An implementation plan has been developed, based on prioritisation and gap analysis by the Biosecurity Implementation Group, that sets out shared biosecurity goals and objectives for the industry. The plan provides specific recommendations on biosecurity activities identified by both industry and government to improve preparedness for pest threats.

In addition, national diagnostic protocols are being developed for several of the high priority plant pests identified, and will form part of future biosecurity plans.

RABA will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

PEST CATEGORISATION

RABA commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts. Currently, of the 21 pests identified in the priority pest list of the Berry Sector Biosecurity Plan, 5 have been categorised and are listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed. In addition, 6 are listed as National Priority Plant Pests.

NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

RABA has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

RABA will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. RABA will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

OWNER REIMBURSEMENT COSTS

RABA is committed to working with PHA to develop an Owner Reimbursement Cost (ORC) Framework for the Rubus industry.

BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

As part of its commitment to industry development, RABA supports activities to enhance awareness and management of exotic and endemic pests and diseases, through research, development and extension projects. Industry events, such as workshops and field days, and industry publications, regularly update growers on biosecurity issues and promote the importance of on-farm biosecurity.
OTHER ACTIVITIES

As part of their integrated pest management programs, many growers employ consulting agronomists throughout the season to undertake surveillance activities within their crops.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

RABA is committed to supporting R&D projects that enhance the *Rubus* industry’s biosecurity expertise and response preparedness. Through Hort Innovation and the Raspberry and Blackberry levy, the industry is supporting projects including increasing industry preparedness for Spotted Wing Drosophila and *Xylella fastidiosa*, *Varroa* mite surveillance and the National Fruit Fly Strategy, management of soil borne pathogens such as *Macrophomina phaseolina*, and the integrated pest management of Redberry mite.
“Australia has been growing rice for 80 years.”
Rice was first grown in the early 1920’s - near the townships of Leeton and Griffith in the New South Wales Riverina. Today the rice industry contributes to supporting 63 regional towns – mostly located in the temperate climate of southern NSW – creating around 8,000 jobs. There are approximately 1,4000 rice farms in Australia producing around 1 million tonnes of rice per year. Most rice farms are owned and operated by Australian families.

“Australian rice feeds up to 40 million people daily”
Rice production is one of the most important agricultural activities on the planet as it is the main source of nutrition for more than half the world’s population. Australia produces enough rice to feed almost 40 million people a meal a day for 365 days.

“Australian rice yields are among the highest in the world”
Australian growers surpassed the current overseas average production of 5.4 tonnes per hectare 45 years ago and today average close to 11 tonnes per hectare.

“The Australian rice industry is the most efficient in the world”
Australian rice growers have improved their water use efficiency by 60% over the last 10 years. They now grow more rice with less water. Overseas rice growers can use up to 5 times more water to grow a kilo of rice compared to Australian growers.

“Outstanding worldwide reputation”
Australian rice is recognised worldwide for its high quality and is demanded by the higher priced international markets. SunRice is Australia’s major processor and marketer of high quality rice food products and by-products. Each year the industry earns around $1 billion in revenue, which includes nearly $500 million from value-added exports. The industry operates without any production or export subsidies.

THE RICEGROWERS’ ASSOCIATION

The Ricegrowers’ Association of Australia Inc. (RGA) is the collective voice of rice growers’ in Australia. The RGA represents over 1500 voluntary members by leading growers on issues affecting the viability of their business and communities. The RGA was formed in the face of adversity in 1930 to unite the small group of pioneer rice growers into an effective and cohesive
force. The legacy is to organise a profitable long-term future for individual rice growers and their industry.

The RGA is strongly committed to ensuring that there is a mechanism in place, Rice Biosecurity Plan, which effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on over 1,500 rice growers, industry employees, regional communities and our International brands. The RGA is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – RICE INDUSTRY

The rice industry through the RGA worked with Plant Health Australia, NSW Department of Primary Industries, the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, SunRice, the Rice Cooperative Research Centre for Sustainable Rice Production and the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the rice industry.

The National Rice Industry Biosecurity Plan, Version 1, was released in 2005. This Plan was reviewed and updated and Version 2 was released in March 2009. A further review and update and Version 3 was finalised in March 2014. The plan has been developed, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, through a series of meetings of Industry and Government representatives and technical experts. At the meetings of the Industry Biosecurity Group threats to the industry were systematically identified and strategies devised to minimise the risks posed to the industry.

The National Rice Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of a large number of potential emergency pest threats to the industry. There are 7 completed Pest Risk Reviews for key pests. These provide more detailed information on the biology of individual priority pests, potential hosts, overseas distribution, symptoms, entry/establishment/spread potential and likely economic and environmental impacts of the priority pests identified in the plan two other key pests.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests. A specific package for on-farm biosecurity has been developed for growers and consultants to use in increasing biosecurity at the farm gate level. It is expected that this package will be utilised in promoting good biosecurity practice to rice growers.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. PLANTPLAN is included as an attachment in the Rice Industry Biosecurity Plan. The Rice Industry Biosecurity Plan also includes a generic industry contingency plan which outlines, amongst other things, pest contingency plans to assist the management of specific categories of pest should they arrive. This Contingency Plan links with, and is used in conjunction with, the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Six threat specific contingency plans have been completed by RGA.

Through the Rice Industry Biosecurity Group, the rice industry has formalised an Incursion Management Taskforce to manage industry specific issues in the event of an incursion. This is described in the Contingency Plan section, and participants were nominated in the first version.
of the plan and in the future will meet to determine a Terms of Reference and Operating
Guidelines as appropriate.

In addition, diagnostic standards have been developed for seven key pests of concern to the
rice industry, and are included in the biosecurity plan.

The Awareness section identifies sources of information for the high priority pests identified in
the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular
pests, fact sheets are being developed, and fact sheets on farm biosecurity and overseas travel
are also included.

RGA worked with Plant Health Australia and provided appropriate resources to the ongoing
maintenance and at least yearly reviews of the plan.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

| There are 6 priority pests identified in the Rice Industry Biosecurity Plan that have been
categorised for inclusion in the Emergency Plant Pest Response Agreement.
The RGA is committed to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to
participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider either pest categorisation
or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts. |

**NATIONAL DECISION MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN**
The RGA has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and
will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed
responses to an EPP.

The RGA will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to
participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests or the
National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Pest Control Centres or the State
Pest Control Headquarters. The RGA will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant
competency and non-competency based training to be delivered through Plant Health
Australia’s Emergency Plant Pest Preparedness Training Program.

**BIOSECURITY AWARENESS**
The RGA has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the Rice industry via participation in
Plant Health Australia’s National Plant Health Awareness Campaign. The RGA has also
increased industry awareness of biosecurity issues through regular grower meetings,
publications and on-line facilities. An awareness campaign was conducted in association with
the launch of the Biosecurity Plan to the rice industry in early 2005.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**
The incursion of exotic weeds into Australian has been identified by the steering committee as a
major threat to the Australian rice industry, similar to the pests and diseases already identified
in the current biosecurity plan. Therefore it is planned to include weeds in the Rice Industry
Biosecurity Plan in the future.
Strawberry Industry Biosecurity Statement  
July 2020

Strawberries Australia Inc. (SAI) is strongly committed to ensuring that the Australian strawberry industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic and international trade, market access, and regional and national economies. The strawberry industry is also committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Strawberries are grown in all states, with major production areas including the Sunshine Coast, Bundaberg and the Granite belt in Queensland, the Yarra Valley in Victoria, Wanneroo and Albany in Western Australia, the Adelaide Hills, and Tasmania. The Australian strawberry industry produces close to 80,000 tonnes per year, with a farm gate value of nearly $400 million. Export accounts for approximately 5% of production, with a value of $24 million (2019).

Strawberry fruit growers throughout Australia rely on the strawberry runner growing industry to provide high quality, disease and pest free planting material. The Victorian Strawberry Industry Certification Authority (VSICA) and the Australian Strawberry Propagators Accreditation Authority (ASPAA) are responsible for certification of all runners sold to fruit growers.

The industry, through SAI, is working with Plant Health Australia (PHA), and state and federal government agencies to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the strawberry industry.

Commitments under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN

The National Industry Biosecurity Plan for the strawberry industry, consistent with PHA’s National Industry Biosecurity Planning Guidelines, was published in April 2009 following endorsement by Government and Industry. Copies of the plan were made available to key industry representatives.

Working with PHA, the Biosecurity Plan for the strawberry industry has been reviewed in 2019-20, and a combined industry biosecurity plan for the Berry Sector (Strawberries and Rubus) has been completed and will be endorsed by industry in 2020.

SAI will work with PHA and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and review of the Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Berry Sector.
The biosecurity plan identifies and prioritises the strawberry industry biosecurity risks, and provides a framework for risk mitigation and preparedness activities. The threat identification section has involved the development of a high priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of 9 exotic pests and 3 exotic pathogens of strawberries.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These Contingency Plans, where available, underpin, and will be used in conjunction with, the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The biosecurity plan identifies a range of existing fact sheets and other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list, that can be used to promote biosecurity awareness throughout the industry.

An implementation plan has been developed, based on prioritisation and gap analysis by the Biosecurity Implementation Group, that sets out shared biosecurity goals and objectives for the industry. The plan provides specific recommendations on biosecurity activities identified by both industry and government to improve preparedness for pest threats.

In addition, national diagnostic protocols are being developed for several of the high priority plant pests identified, and will form part of future biosecurity plans.

SAI will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

PEST CATEGORISATION

SAI commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in future meetings of the Categorisation Group to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts. Currently, of the 21 pests identified in the priority pest list of the Berry Sector Biosecurity Plan, 5 have been categorised and are listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed. In addition, 6 are listed as National Priority Plant Pests.

NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

SAI has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

SAI will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres. SAI will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.
OWNER REIMBURSEMENT COSTS

SAI is committed to working with PHA to develop an Owner Reimbursement Cost (ORC) Framework for the strawberry industry.

BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

As part of its commitment to industry development, SAI supports activities to enhance awareness and management of exotic and endemic pests and diseases, through research, development and extension projects. Industry events, such as workshops and field days, and industry publications, regularly update growers on biosecurity issues and promote the importance of on-farm biosecurity.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The strawberry runner industry provides certified pest- and disease-free planting material to fruit growers, accredited by either VSICA or ASPAA. These organisations conduct continual surveillance throughout the growing season in order to provide certified high health plants.

As part of their integrated pest management programs, many growers employ consulting agronomists throughout the season to undertake surveillance activities within their crops.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

SAI is committed to supporting R&D projects that enhance the strawberry industry’s biosecurity expertise and response preparedness. Through Hort Innovation and the strawberry levy, the industry is supporting projects including increasing industry preparedness for Spotted Wing Drosophila and Xylella fastidiosa, Varroa mite surveillance and the National Fruit Fly Strategy, management of soil borne pathogens such as Macrophomina phaseolina, and the production of high health planting material.
Summerfruit (Stonefruit) Industry Biosecurity Statement
July 2020

Summerfruit Australia Ltd is strongly committed to ensuring the Summerfruit (Stonefruit) Industry effectively reduces the potential for incursions of emergency plant pests and diseases that could adversely impact on domestic trade/international trade/market access/public health/food safety/regional and national economy/environment. The Summerfruit (Stonefruit) Industry is also strongly committed to ensuring responses to any pest incursions that may occur are undertaken as rapidly and effectively as possible to minimise costs to growers, the industry, other plant industries, government parties and the wider community.

Summerfruit Australia Ltd is the industry voice for the betterment of Summerfruit (fresh apricots, nectarines, peaches and plums). It represents the interests of the Summerfruit (Stonefruit) industry on a national and international basis. It is the body recognised by government as the peak industry body for growers of Summerfruit (Stonefruit) and has responsibility for the management of the industry marketing and R&D levy expenditure. Summerfruit Australia Ltd works closely with other interested groups, government and supply chain partners to maximize profitability for the industry. It was formed in 1994 as Australian Fresh Stone Fruit Growers Association (AFSFGA), a federation of state organisations, and in August 2003 decided to change its corporate structure to a national company limited by guarantee. Its leadership is democratically elected directly by growers and it has a national office based in Albury, NSW and a satellite office in Aldgate, SA...

Summerfruit Australia Ltd is a communications channel, a lobby group, a provider of technical information and a promoter of summer fruit as a healthy nutritious fruit

Summerfruit Australia Ltd holds regular meetings with government and others to advance the industry perspective on important issues, such as market access for Australian fruit, fair access to irrigation water and protecting Australian horticulturists from the risk of exotic pest incursions.

INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN – SUMMERFRUIT (STONEFRUIT) INDUSTRY

The Summerfruit (Stonefruit) Industry through Summerfruit Australia Ltd has worked with Plant Health Australia (PHA), a range of government agencies including the Federal agency DAWE, and the State Agencies in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, Tasmania and Western Australia and the Canned Fruit Industry to develop a comprehensive national approach to managing biosecurity risks in the Summerfruit (Stonefruit) Industry.
The National Summerfruit Industry Biosecurity Plan comprises an introduction and four other key sections.

The threat identification section has involved the development of a priority pest list, developed through the identification, analysis and prioritisation of one hundred and ninety seven (197) exotic pests and sixty six (66) exotic pathogens.

The risk mitigation section outlines a range of pre-emptive strategies at the national, state, regional and property levels to ensure the exclusion/management of serious plant pests.

The contingency plans and response management procedures section details key industry contacts and communication procedures, relevant counselling and financial counselling providers. These Contingency Plans underpin and will be used in conjunction with the general management structures of PLANTPLAN. Each contingency plan includes pest or industry specific details relating to the management/control/eradication of individual pest threats.

The awareness section identifies a range of existing fact sheets or other sources of information for the high priority pests identified in the priority pest list. Where no existing fact sheets or information was available on particular pests, fact sheets have been and will continue to be developed.

The National Summerfruit Industry Biosecurity Plan for Summerfruit (Stonefruit) does not include any other specific details.

In addition, number of national diagnostic protocols have been/are being developed for Xylella, Fireblight, Plum Pox and will form part of future biosecurity plans.

Summerfruit Australia Ltd will work with Plant Health Australia and provide appropriate resources to the ongoing maintenance and reviews of the plan.

**PEST CATEGORISATION**

Of the two hundred and sixty-three (263) pests identified in the priority pest list of the National Summerfruit Industry Biosecurity Plan, four (4) has been categorised and are listed in Schedule 13 of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

AND

Summerfruit Australia Ltd commits to ensuring appropriate industry technical experts will be available to participate in Categorisation Groups to consider pest categorisation or funding weight calculations for Emergency Plant Pests with multi-industry impacts.
NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES/PLANTPLAN

Summerfruit Australia Ltd has endorsed PLANTPLAN (Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan) and will use this document to work effectively with government parties to manage any agreed responses to an EPP.

Summerfruit Australia Ltd will ensure senior and qualified industry delegates are available at short notice to participate in meetings of the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests and the National Management Group and to take up roles in Local Control Centres or the State Coordination Centres.

Summerfruit Australia Ltd will also ensure all delegates participate in relevant training delivered through Plant Health Australia’s National Emergency Plant Pest Training Program.

BIOSECURITY AWARENESS

Summerfruit Australia Ltd has been involved in promoting biosecurity within the Summerfruit (Stonefruit) Industry through the involvement with Varroa Mite and Brown Marmorated Stink Bug incursions and subsequent Eradication Programs and the Exotic Fruit Fly Program.

Summerfruit Australia Ltd maintains a Biosecurity section on the industry website. In addition, Summerfruit Australia Ltd prepares and supplies to members a range of pest and disease and orchard sanitation technical sheets.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Summerfruit Australia Ltd has employed a Chief Executive Officer and one of the roles is to undertake biosecurity activities including:

a) Representation of Summerfruit Australia Ltd at relevant Plant Health Australia meetings,

b) Prepare a draft On-Farm Biosecurity Training Manual

c) Ongoing review the pest list within the Summerfruit Industry Biosecurity Plan.

The position of the Chief Executive Officer is funded through general revenue of Summerfruit Australia Ltd.

With the recent finalisation of the Summerfruit Biosecurity Industry Plan an ongoing Summerfruit Biosecurity Reference Panel has been established and this is meeting on a six-monthly basis during 2020 and 2021.
Schedule 16 – Process for Variation or Termination of Deed

(Clause 17)

Part 1 – Form for Nomination of Authorised Signatory

Chief Executive Officer
Plant Health Australia
Level 1, 1 Phipps Close
DEAKIN ACT 2600

Date:

Dear Chief Executive Officer,


I certify that ________________________________ [name/position of authorised person] whose signature is appended at the foot of this notice and signed in my presence, is authorised from the date of this notice until ____________________ [insert date or “further notice”] as the representative of ___________________________ [name of Party] to sign on its behalf ‘Approval of Variation to Provisions’ of the Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses (EPPRD).

By virtue of this notice, Plant Health Australia and each other Party to the EPPRD can rely on an ‘Approval of Variation to Provisions’ duly signed by this authorised person as evidence of ________________________________’s [name of Party] agreement to the variations of the EPPRD which are set out in the Approval of Variations to Provisions form.

________________________________________
(Signature of Authorised Person)

Signed in my presence:

Yours faithfully

_________________________________________
(Minister/President)
Part 2 – Approval of Variations to Provisions

Chief Executive Officer
Plant Health Australia
Level 1, 1 Phipps Close
DEAKIN ACT 2600

Dear Chief Executive Officer

**Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses (EPPRD) – Approval of Variations to Provisions**

As the representative of [name of Party] duly authorised to confirm on its behalf the Party’s approval of the Variations to Provisions of the EPPRD set out in Attachment A “Background Paper on Proposed Variations to the Emergency Plant pest response Deed” (enclosed), I hereby confirm the approval of [name of Party] of the scheduled variations to the EPPRD as follows (tick the appropriate box):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed variation number</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Approve</th>
<th>Reject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Signature of Authorised signatory)  (Signature of Witness to Authorised signatory’s signature)

(Title of Authorised signatory)  (Full name of Witness)

(Date)  (Date)
Schedule 17 – Guidelines for Owner Reimbursement Costs

The following is the Executive Summary for the Guidelines for Owner Reimbursement Costs under the Government and Plant Industries Cost Sharing Deed in respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses (Guidelines).

The Guidelines provide a basis for consistent legislation in the States and Territories with respect to the payment to Owners of Owner Reimbursement Costs. For this Deed, the Guidelines serve the separate purpose of providing the basis for assessment of Owner Reimbursement Costs for the purposes of Cost Sharing.

The complete Guidelines document is available from the Plant Health Australia web site.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main objective in providing Owner Reimbursement Costs (ORC) is to provide incentives for growers to report suspicious pests or pathogens\(^{16}\) under the basic principle of no one being worse off or better off as a result of reporting a suspected exotic pest incursion. A companion objective is to provide social justice to those growers who, through no fault of their own, are seriously affected by a Response Plan to eradicate an exotic pest.

As a general guideline, Owner Reimbursement Costs should be equal to the previous or pre-Response Plan value of the assets in question less the current or post Response Plan value of the damaged assets, plus the response costs incurred by the owner. Where the assets are destroyed, the post Response Plan value will, of course, be zero. Thus,

\[ \text{Owner Reimbursement Costs} = (\text{Previous asset value} - \text{Damaged asset value}) + \text{Response costs} \]

In general, the time of valuation should be as close as possible to the time of destruction of the Crop or imposition of a quarantine order. However there are circumstances where more practical options are available, particularly for immature annual Crops, or short rotation Crops.

The challenge in establishing guidelines is in determining appropriate values of assets, especially in situations where there are no established markets. The concept applied is, at the time of Crop destruction where the Crop is immature or it is a perennial Crop, what price would an owner and a person wishing to lease the Crop/land agree on under normal circumstances. This is equal to the discounted net present value of the income/cost stream that can be earned from taking on the lease and continuing the same line of production. For annual broad-acre Crops, the conceptual lease time would be from the time of Crop destruction until harvest, as there is no need to consider subsequent largely independent Crops. For perennial Crops the conceptual lease time may spread over several rotations.

Establishing guidelines involves taking into account several factors and finding an acceptable balance between them.

- Guidelines should be consistent with the basic principles.
- They should be relatively simple and easy to understand.
- They should be easy to administer with administration costs kept to a minimum.
- They should be aimed at providing owners with an incentive to report suspected exotic pest incursions — owners should be no better or worse off.
- Yet the costs of providing Owner Reimbursement Costs to owners affected by a Response Plan should not be so high as to frequently make the benefits of eradication less than the costs, and no eradication attempted.

Annual Broad Acre Crops

Based on the general guideline outlined above, the time of valuation should be at the time the Crop is destroyed. This presents no difficulties if the Crop is destroyed shortly before harvest, but there is no effective market value for an immature Crop which is destroyed as part of the Response Plan. Owner Reimbursement Costs could be based on long term average prices and

---

\(^{16}\) The term ‘pests’ will be used throughout this report to refer generally to pests and pathogens of plants.
yields, but this would mean that the partners to cost sharing (governments and industry) would take much of the risk in production from the time of Crop destruction to harvest. There would be inequities, for example, if the year turned out to be a drought year and the growers affected by the Response Plan received average yields whereas all other growers in surrounding areas achieved drought yields, and affected growers would undoubtedly also have otherwise achieved drought yields.

Consequently, the approach adopted is to delay Owner Reimbursement Costs until harvest time and base payments on the actual outcomes on prices and yields for the district at that time. The value of the immature Crop destroyed is taken as an estimate of the final Crop value at farm gate less harvesting costs, less any production costs that would normally have been incurred between the time of Crop destruction and harvest. Growers would not normally receive payment for their Crop until harvest anyway so this approach would leave them no better or worse off.

Farm gate value is here defined as the value of produce produced on the farm and sold at first point of “sale” (for example the local silo for grains) less the estimated or actual transport cost and selling costs from farm gate to first point of sale.

**Recommendation for Annual Broad Acre Crops**

Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[
\text{ORC} = (A - B) + C + D + E - F + G
\]

where:

\[
A = \text{Estimated farm gate value of the Crop(s) destroyed which would otherwise have been harvested, where the timing of valuation is normal harvest time.}
\]

\[
= a \times y \times p
\]

where:

\[
a = \text{area of Crop destroyed}
\]

\[
y = \text{estimated yield of the Crop destroyed}
\]

\[
= \text{regional average yield in year t} \times \text{Claimant’s yield in year t–1}
\]

\[
\text{regional average yield in year t–1}
\]

Where the whole district is seriously affected by the pest being eradicated and regional yields are clearly distorted, the yield (y) for the determination of Owner Reimbursement Costs paid by the applicable State/Territory will be taken as the regional average for the five years to year t–1.

Yields protected by insurance policies would be protected under this Method of Valuation (to the extent that the Owner is not able to recover under the insurance policy) and any insurance premiums are not to form part of Owner Reimbursement Costs.

\[
p = \text{estimated farm gate price (local silo cash price less transport costs between farm gate and silo) at the time of harvest. Specifically, the average price for the two calendar months over which the bulk of regional harvest takes place. Where no cash prices are posted, prices are to be taken as the estimated pool return for the type and quality of Crop which was destroyed. In the event that an Owner has taken out a forward contract to deliver grain at a specific price, assessment of ‘p’ is to be based on this contract price rather than the cash silo price. Price is to reflect the quality of product that would}
\]
otherwise have been delivered. Owners would need to demonstrate quality by way of variety sown and/or recent farm history.

In the event of there being no obvious local delivery point where cash prices are posted, the average district price (based on deliveries to closest end users or port) is to be used as the basis for payment.

\[ B = \text{‘Best practice’ harvesting costs plus any other costs normally associated with Crop production between the time of Crop destruction and harvest.} \]

Such costs are to be standardised for the region based on estimates by State/Territory departments of agriculture.

\[ C = \text{Direct costs associated with the Response Plan incurred by the Owner but not normally incurred as a production expense.} \]

\[ D = \text{Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.} \]

\[ E = \text{Loss of profits from fallow land in subsequent years where land is required to be fallowed as part of the Response Plan.} \]

Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be restricted to loss of profits for a maximum of three years. Methods of estimating loss of profits are the same as for the year in which the Crop is destroyed and include deductions for ground preparation and planting costs normally associated with Crop production. Such costs are to be standardised, based on ‘best practice’ and estimated by State/Territory departments of agriculture. Any payment of Owner Reimbursement Costs by the applicable State or Territory is to be made after harvest in that region each year.

\[ F = \text{Profits that could be earned from the next best alternative enterprise, produced with the same resources, on the land where the Crop is destroyed and permitted by the Response Plan.} \]

Unless the Response Plan requires the land to be fallow, deductions are to be made on the assumption that the Owner chooses the next most profitable enterprise that could be undertaken with existing capital equipment. Gross margins for these alternative enterprises are to be standardised, based on ‘best practice’ and estimated by State/Territory departments of agriculture. This applies only in the year in which the Crop is destroyed. Where a strict fallow in subsequent years is not required under the Response Plan — that is, any alternative enterprise can be undertaken except production of the Crop concerned in the Response Plan, Owner Reimbursement Costs are not to include the difference in profits for the Crop in question and any alternative enterprise.

\[ G = \text{Value of any stored grain or other produce on-farm destroyed as part of the Response Plan. The value is to be in-silo value based on local market values less transport and handling costs at the time of destruction of the stored grain.} \]

Where a Crop has to be destroyed shortly after planting and there is a reasonable opportunity to plant an alternative Crop, the Owner may choose to be reimbursed for the costs of destroying the Affected Crop and planting the alternative Crop. Otherwise, the above formula will apply.
with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

**Annual Short Rotation Crops (Vegetables/Strawberries/Nursery Seedling Producers/Nursery Wholesale)**

These Crops include vegetables, strawberries and nursery seedlings. While in some cases an annual Crop is produced, a general characteristic of these Crops is that several ‘harvests’ are made during the growing season and growers will organise their business to have a constant turnover. A lettuce grower, for example, will have Crops at different stages to produce commercial quantities of fresh produce at regular intervals.

The basic principles and formula for Owner Reimbursement Costs applying to annual broadacre Crops should also apply in this case, even though harvests are made at different intervals throughout the growing season rather than at the end.

**Recommendations**

Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[
\text{ORC} = (A - B) + C + D + E - F + G
\]

where:

- \( A \) = Estimated farm gate value of the Crop(s) destroyed.
  
  \[ a \times y \times p \]

  where
  
  - \( a \) = area of Crop destroyed
  - \( y \) = yield

  or \( a \) and \( y \) might refer to number of units expected to be sold, such as a number of punnets of seedlings.

  The yield estimate is to take into account the type of Crop destroyed. Strawberries, for example, have a high yield in the first year, but a much lower yield in the second year.

- \( p \) = farm gate price
  
  \[ \text{either:} \]
  
  - the average market price for the season in the region or marketplace where normal sales take place; or
  
  where there are signed contracts with the price stipulated on the contract, the contract price

  less any transport or selling costs.

- \( B \) = Harvesting costs plus any other costs normally associated with Crop production between the time of Crop destruction and selling or harvesting. This is to include normal treatment or packaging and handling costs on farm for some harvested produce (for example washing or dipping of products).

- \( C \) = Direct costs associated with the Response Plan incurred by the Owner but not normally incurred as a production expense — including cleaning of equipment or glasshouses etc.
D = Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.

E = Loss of profits from a Response Plan requirement to fallow land or keep glasshouses empty.

These ORC are only available where the Response Plan requires a fallow period that exceeds ten weeks and are to be restricted to loss of profits for a maximum of three years. Profits are to be based on standardised gross margins data from State/Territory departments of agriculture, based on ‘best practice’. However, in some cases, for example where glasshouses are involved, profit estimates may need to be based on documentation of profits from previous years.

F = Profits that could be earned from the next best alternative enterprise, produced with the same resources, on the land where the Crop is destroyed and permitted by the Response Plan — as determined in accordance with the definition of ‘F’ in clause 4.4.11.

G = Value of any stored produce on farm destroyed as a directive of the Response Plan — as for annual broadacre Crops.

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

**Perennial Trees/Vine Crops/Nut Crops/Nursery Bare Root Stock Production/Large Bare Rooted Plants**

This category of plants includes all commercial fruit trees such as citrus and stone fruits, pome fruits, nut trees, all vine Crops, longer-term nursery bare root stock production and large bare rooted nursery plants including trees.

**Orchard tree Crops**

All these Crops have in common a normal rotation cycle which is more than one year. For example, apples generally have a rotation cycle of around 25 years with a first Crop at around two to three years and first commercial Crop at around year seven.

When a Response Plan involves the destruction of an orchard or vineyard, the normal rotation cycle is interrupted. Tree replacement is brought on sooner, sometimes with a fallow period to control the pest. Apart from reimbursement for destruction of the fruit in the year the orchard is destroyed as part of a Response Plan, the issue is how growers should be reimbursed for destruction of the trees. Reimbursement is for loss in value of the orchard/land asset. Conceptually, the orchard’s value is equal to the sum of the discounted stream of net profits which could in future be earned from the orchard/land — including account taken of future tree replacements. This is the price a person wanting to lease the orchard under normal conditions would agree to pay the owner to lease the asset.

If growers are reimbursed for the full cost of pulling out the trees and replanting them, then some will be better off depending on how old the orchard or vineyard is. If it is at or near the end of its rotation then, in effect, governments and industry would be paying for the removal and replanting costs when under normal circumstances, the owner would meet these costs anyway. The owner would be much better off.

Two methods have been examined that address this issue.
The first method is to apply a ‘depreciation’ factor to all costs associated with a change in the rotation — tree removal, replanting costs and the period of lost income when trees are immature. Thus, if the orchard had only just reached commercial production and had to be destroyed, the full costs of replanting the orchard would be included plus any lost income during the immature period. However, if the orchard, when destroyed, was in the year when it would have been destroyed and replaced under normal circumstances, then costs of replacement would not be included in Owner Reimbursement Costs. A straight-line depreciation schedule would be applied between these two extremes.

The second method is where replacement payments would be based on the difference between the sums of two discounted net profit/cost streams. One stream would be the normal rotation cycle over several cycles — three cycles are suggested. The other stream would be the new set rotation cycles caused by the Response Plan. All tree replacement costs would be brought forward in the discounting procedure.

The Second method is perhaps the more theoretically correct of the two, but Owner Reimbursement Costs are somewhat sensitive, in some cases to the length of time over which discounting takes place. This may be a source of uncertainty for many Crops. The calculations are quite straightforward but the method is likely to be harder for growers to understand. For this reason it may be better to adopt method one. In both cases, information will be needed on a standard rotation pattern for each Crop. This could be agreed upon by industry associations for purposes of calculating Owner Reimbursement Costs.

For some nut tree Crops, vines and also pears, the rotations are very long, in some cases approaching 100 years. Method one could still be applied. It would mean, however, that for most commercial vineyards which have relatively recently been planted, owners would receive virtually full replanting costs.

Recommendations

Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[ \text{ORC} = (A – B) + C + D + E + F + G + H + I \]

where

\[ A = \text{Loss of profit from the current Crop destroyed.} \]
\[ = a \times y \times p \]

where

\[ a = \text{area of tree Crop destroyed} \]
\[ y = \text{expected yield based on Owners’ past records, taking into account any biennial bearing patterns. In particular, Owners claiming above average yields (and prices) must produce auditable records of above average returns in previous years to justify additional amounts in Owner Reimbursement Costs.} \]

\[ \text{If the Owner has no records, the regional average for that Crop is to be used.} \]
\[ p = \text{market price at farm gate at harvest time} \]

\[ B = \text{Harvesting costs based on ‘best practice’ as estimated by State/Territory departments of agriculture, plus any other costs (such as watering or pruning costs) normally associated with Crop production between the time of tree destruction and harvest.} \]
C = Direct costs associated with the Response Plan incurred by the Owner but not normally incurred as a production expense.

D = Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.

E = Loss of net profits for any fallow period required by a Response Plan.

Net profit is to be standardised based on regional gross margins calculations for the Crop in question by State/Territory departments of agriculture.

F = Tree destruction costs ‘depreciated’ depending on the age of the orchard in relation to a standardised period of rotation for the tree Crop in question.

Depreciation is to be based on a straight line method between full cost reimbursement at the beginning of commercial production of the rotation and the end of the rotation.

G = ‘Depreciated’ tree replanting costs as for tree destruction costs.

H = ‘Depreciated’ loss of profit during the non-bearing period of immature trees.

I = Value of any stored produce on farm destroyed as a directive of the Response Plan including seed or nuts — as for annual broadacre Crops.

If there is an opportunity following the Response Plan for modernising or upgrading the orchard — for example, closer tree plantings, more expensive varieties, or trellis plantings, the level of Owner Reimbursement Costs is to be related strictly to replacing the asset that was there. If an Owner wants to introduce more technology or better infrastructure, for example, the Owner must cover any additional costs.

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

**Broad Acre Perennial Crops**

This group of plants includes sugar cane, bananas and other such Crops. Owner Reimbursement Costs can be calculated in exactly the same way as for orchard trees. Generally, the broadacre perennial Crops have a shorter rotation cycle, but the principles are the same.

**Recommendations**

Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[
ORC = (A - H) + B + C + D + E + F + G
\]

where

A = Value of the Crop destroyed

\[
= a \times y \times p
\]

where

a = Area of Crop destroyed.

y = Yield which depends on the type of Crop destroyed — for sugar, for example, whether it is a plant Crop or ratoon Crop as yields vary from year to year. For this reason, yield y is to be based on distinct average yields for the type of Crop destroyed — for example, ratoon or plant Crop.
\[ p = \text{Market price of the product.} \]

\[ = \text{The average regional market price over the previous 12 months valued at farm gate.} \]

\[ B = \text{Any costs of Crop destruction ‘depreciated’ in the same way as for perennial tree Crops.} \]

\[ C = \text{Any other costs incurred by the Owner as a direct result of the Response Plan and not normally incurred as a production cost.} \]

\[ D = \text{‘Depreciated’ Crop replanting costs as for perennial tree Crops.} \]

\[ E = \text{Loss of net profit from compulsory fallow, where fallow would not normally be part of the rotation cycle. Net profit to be standardised and based on regional gross margin estimates by State/Territory departments of agriculture averaged over the rotation cycle. A maximum of three years fallow is to be included.} \]

\[ F = \text{Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.} \]

\[ G = \text{Value of any stored produce on farm destroyed as a directive if the Response Plan — as for annual broadacre Crops.} \]

\[ H = \text{‘Best practice’ harvesting costs plus any other costs normally associated with Crop production between the time of Crop destruction and harvest. Such costs are to be standardised for the region based on estimates by State/Territory departments of agriculture.} \]

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

**Nursery Root Stock Production and Nursery Large Rooted Plants**

For these enterprises, the returns to the owner accrue when the root stock or trees are sold and, in most cases, they can be sold at any stage past an initial juvenile stage. There is no annual production as in the case of orchard trees. Also in most cases, there will be a market value for the trees at nearly all stages. Hence, Owner Reimbursement Costs should be based on the market value of the trees or root stock less any production costs.

**Recommendations**

Costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs are to be calculated as follows:

\[ \text{ORC} = A + B + C + D \]

where:

\[ A = \text{Market value or estimated market value of the plants at the time of their destruction.} \]

\[ B = \text{Direct costs associated with the Response Plan incurred by the Owner but not normally incurred as a production expense. This includes tree destruction costs.} \]

\[ C = \text{Replacement value of any capital items destroyed as part of the Response Plan.} \]

\[ D = \text{Any stocks on hand which are destroyed due to the Response Plan.} \]
with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by
Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

**Nurseries, Retail**

No Owner Reimbursement Costs will be paid under this category.

**Bees, Hives, Honey and Associated Products**

The beekeeping industry has several sectors. The most common is that sector which uses normal hives to produce honey, bees wax and several other minor products. Specially adapted hives are used by some producers to produce pollen in addition to honey. A third sector derives income by providing pollination services for orchardists. Other specialist beekeepers produce queen bees, while others maintain nucleus hives.

Owner Reimbursement Costs following an exotic pest incursion necessitating destruction of hives should be based on the value of the asset destroyed. That is, the value of the hive plus queen bee plus colony. Owner Reimbursement Costs would therefore amount to replacement value for the particular colony destroyed. There are recognised market values for these.

Where beekeepers lose income, for example, because they can no longer provide pollinating services to orchardists, Owner Reimbursement Costs should not include this loss of income as it is a consequential income loss. To the extent that this may cause particular hardship to some beekeepers, other welfare or adjustment programs may be considered. But the principles of underlying Owner Reimbursement Costs under the plant deed, based on change in asset values, should not be compromised.

Owner Reimbursement Costs would not include loss of product (say honey) value as a result of contamination resulting from a Response Plan action for another industry. For example, if a Response Plan for apples involved spraying trees with insecticide and as a result pollen became contaminated and rendered the honey produced unsaleable, beekeepers would not receive Owner Reimbursement Costs. There are several reasons for this. First, this is a consequential income loss. Second, in this example, beekeepers would not be contributing to the overall costs of the Response Plan relating to apples. And third, in most cases, there would be considerable uncertainty and dispute about the source of any contamination of the honey.

**Recommendations**

Bees and their hives are defined as included under Crops. However for the avoidance of doubt, costs which may be paid as Owner Reimbursement Costs to the owners of bees and their hives are to be calculated as follows:

\[
\text{ORC} = A + B + C + D + E + F + G
\]

where:

- **A** = Value of the particular hive destroyed.
- **B** = Value of the queen bee destroyed.
- **C** = Value for the bee colony component.
- **D** = Replacement value for any other capital items destroyed.
- **E** = Any other costs incurred by the beekeeper as a direct result of the Response Plan and not normally incurred.
- **F** = Value of any honey stocks destroyed.
\[
G = \text{the loss of the estimated Farm Gate Value of products foregone, less beehive operating costs, resulting from a requirement under a Response Plan that for a specified period bees be quarantined in, or excluded from, a specified area, if applicable.}
\]

with such costs and values being determined in accordance with guidelines issued by Plant Health Australia as set out in Schedule 17.

Properties with multiple enterprises

Many properties have multiple enterprises and cases may arise where properties are placed under quarantine, which may prevent any produce leaving the property. This may necessitate produce being destroyed on the property even though it is not directly attacked by the exotic pest that is being eradicated. But this other produce may act as a transmission agent for the pest. The question is, should grower Owner Reimbursement Costs be made for the produce not directly affected by the pest but made unsaleable as a direct result of the quarantine order?

Recommendation

In the case of multiple enterprises, produce not directly affected by the pest being eradicated but which is rendered valueless, say, because it is a perishable commodity that cannot be sold because of quarantine restrictions should be eligible for Owner Reimbursement Costs. The principle underlying the amount of Owner Reimbursement Costs should be the same as for produce which is susceptible to the pest and must be destroyed as part of the eradication program.