

2022–23

Mid-Year Performance Report



Plant Health
AUSTRALIA

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

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Plant Health Australia, Canberra, ACT



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From the CEO

The Mid-Year Performance Report (MYPR) marks the halfway point in our financial year and reflects our progress against the strategic and operational priorities outlined in Plant Health Australia's (PHA) Strategic Plan 2022–27, as well as the anticipated activities captured in the Annual Operational Plan 2022–23. This MYPR is the first under our new strategic plan.

Despite extreme pressure on the biosecurity system with continuous and concurrent responses and climate variability, I'm proud of our results and what the PHA team have accomplished. The pace of change and tempo of work has made for a busy six months with staff working closely with Government and Industry to improve our ability to detect, identify, respond and recover from plant pest incursions, develop cohesive networks and strengthen existing partnerships. This included new Owner Reimbursement Cost evidence frameworks, response and surveillance training and new industry-specific eLearning courses and industry biosecurity plans.

Bringing stakeholders together to invest in and strengthen Australia's plant biosecurity system is core to what we do and we cultivate these relationships continuously through various touchpoints throughout the year designed to keep our Members informed and involved.

Internally, we've focused on those actions needed to manage the company effectively, support changes needed to implement the new five-year strategy and build the team's capacity and capability to deliver against our strategic priorities.



Building an internal culture of excellence, transparency and care has reinvigorated the team to deliver solid results for the plant biosecurity system not only for our Members but for the economy, environment and community.

Sarah Corcoran
CEO

About this report




The 2022–23 Mid-Year Performance Report summarises PHA's progress and achievements from 1 July to 31 December 2022.

Progress in each of the seven key result areas from PHA's Strategic Plan 2022–27 (see [pages 6–7](#)) are tracked against key performance indicators identified in the [2022–23 Annual Operational Plan](#).

Since each Annual Operational Plan is finalised in May of the previous financial year, additional projects which receive funding between May and the beginning of the next financial year appear in the Mid-Year Performance Report. Where this occurs (or where KPIs have changed) it is noted in the text accordingly.

A colour code is used to report on performance, as shown below. Unless otherwise specified, the key applies to all KPIs within a portfolio.

Performance reporting key

-
-  KPI is on track or completed
 -  KPI is behind schedule or KPI has been modified
 -  KPI will not be met
-

Strategic Plan 2022–27

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

A strong and resilient Plant Biosecurity System is built on connected strategies and partnerships, effective and efficient response and recovery, and leveraged data and technology for improved decision-making and rapid response to biosecurity threats.

1

Respond effectively

2

Strengthen partnerships

3

Enhance integration

Aim

We will advance Australia's collective ability to respond and recover from plant pest incursions.

Measures/Outcomes

- Continued shared commitment to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed measured by positive sentiment of signatories and no decrease in industry coverage
- "Fit for purpose" national response arrangements underpinned by strengthened and expanded response partnerships
- Maturing levels of biosecurity response capability across stakeholders sustained through practices supporting continual and shared learning
- Cohesive networks of informed and capable industry, government, and community stakeholders ready to respond to biosecurity threats.

Strategic Actions

We will do this by focusing on:

- 1.1 Strengthening and expanding the scope of national response arrangements.
- 1.2 Strengthening response readiness and resilience.
- 1.3 Cultivating collaborations that improve national response arrangements.
- 1.4 Reviewing and sharing learnings to improve responses.

Aim

We will develop cohesive networks amongst our members, the supply chain and the science and technology community.

Measures/Outcomes

- New relationships established with non-traditional and international partners
- Increased positive sentiment towards the value of existing partnerships
- Increased number of industry and partner programs developing best practice solutions
- Increased understanding of industry adoption of biosecurity practices
- Benefits of partnered communication, extension and training valued by industry.

Strategic Actions

We will do this by focusing on:

- 2.1 Building new partnerships to face future risks.
- 2.2 Improving our existing partnerships for emerging risks.
- 2.3 Working with members to develop best practice solutions for preparedness, response and recovery.
- 2.4 Driving adoption of best practice solutions that reduce risk.
- 2.5 Collaborating with partners to ensure targeted communication, extension and training.

Aim

We will improve Australia's ability to identify and detect biosecurity threats.

Measures/Outcomes

- Increased awareness of the use of innovative technologies and approaches in plant biosecurity
- Enhanced national identification and detection capability across Australia that reflects biosecurity risk profiles
- Increased knowledge brokering of industry and government intelligence
- Increase in engagement activities and initiatives with the community.

Strategic Actions

We will do this by focusing on:

- 3.1 Being a role model in the use of innovative technologies and approaches in plant biosecurity.
- 3.2 Strengthening scientific rigour and capability.
- 3.3 Establishing PHA as the knowledge broker for plant biosecurity.
- 3.4 Continually improving Australia's biosecurity systems and processes.
- 3.5 Engaging the community to enhance reporting of biosecurity threats.
- 3.6 Capturing greater benefits from national and international initiatives.

OUR OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

These are a range of organisational actions in addition to the strategic actions that PHA must execute to manage the company effectively, support the changes required to implement this strategy and to build the capacity and capability to deliver our strategic priorities.

1

Improve
governance &
administration

2

Enhance
communication
& engagement

Budget 2022–23

\$

Strategic Priority 1 – Respond effectively

Action 1.1 Strengthening and expanding the scope of national response arrangements.

1.1.1 Plant biosecurity response arrangements	445,501
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Action 1.2 Strengthening response readiness and resilience.

1.2.1 Plant biosecurity response preparedness and training	351,119
------------------------------------------------------------	---------

1.2.2 eLearning	19,874
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1.2.3 Simulation exercises	25,748
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1.2.4 Biosecurity response preparedness	86,180
-----------------------------------------	--------

Action 1.3 Cultivating collaborations that improve national response arrangements.

1.3.1 National co-ordination and cross-sectoral engagement	55,328
------------------------------------------------------------	--------

Action 1.4 Reviewing and sharing learnings to improve responses.

1.4.1 Biosecurity response operations	129,770
---------------------------------------	---------

1,113,520

\$

Strategic Priority 2 – Strengthen partnerships

Action 2.1 Building new partnerships to face future risks.

2.1.1 New partnerships to strengthen the Australian plant biosecurity system	300,850
------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------

Action 2.2 Improving our existing partnerships for emerging risks.

2.2.1 National committees and working groups	171,832
----------------------------------------------	---------

2.2.2 Strategic planning and reporting	79,642
----------------------------------------	--------

2.2.3 Improve biosecurity partnerships through collective engagement	35,133
----------------------------------------------------------------------	--------

2.2.4 Member liaison	241,505
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2.2.5 Corporate communications	312,039
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Action 2.3 Working with members to develop best practice solutions for preparedness, response and recovery.

2.3.1 Biosecurity planning and review	-
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2.3.2 Development of biosecurity plans	682,511
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2.3.3 Biosecurity programs	4,033,394
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Action 2.4 Driving adoption of best practice solutions that reduce risk.

2.4.1 National programs	113,851
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2.4.2 Levy management	207,510
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2.4.3 National Fruit Fly Council	600,585
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2.4.4 National surveillance programs	1,343,028
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Action 2.5 Collaborating with partners to ensure targeted communication, extension and training

2.5.1 Surveillance training	62,369
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2.5.2 National programs	11,082
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8,195,331

\$

Strategic Priority 3 – Enhance integration

Action 3.1 Being a role model in the use of innovative technologies and approaches in plant biosecurity.

3.1.1 Digital systems	1,617,521
3.1.2 Innovation management platform	81,162

Action 3.2 Strengthening scientific rigour and capability.

3.2.1 Biosecurity network coordination to enhance the national diagnostics and surveillance system	948,624
3.2.2 Protocols to support surveillance and diagnostics	214,133
3.2.3 Proficiency testing of diagnostic laboratories	10,000

Action 3.3 Establishing PHA as the knowledge broker for plant biosecurity.

3.3.1 National programs	150,996
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Action 3.4 Continually improving Australia's biosecurity systems and processes.

3.4.1 Digital systems	-
3.4.2 Digital systems to support diagnostics	251,325
3.4.3 Surveillance programs	310,534

3,584,295

\$

Operational Priority 1 – Improve governance & administration

Action 1.1 Governance and administrative support

1.1.1 Board management	270,467
1.1.2 Company finance and administration	639,831

910,298

\$

Operational Priority 2 – Enhance communication & engagement

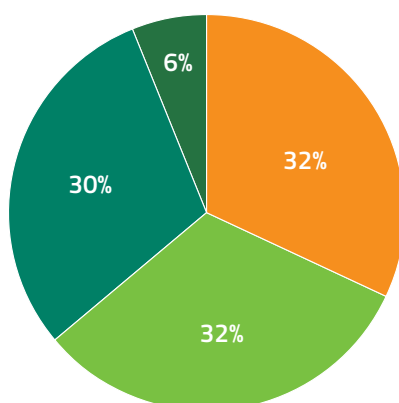
Action 1.1 Enhance communication and engagement

1.1.1 Communication and engagement	193,211
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193,211

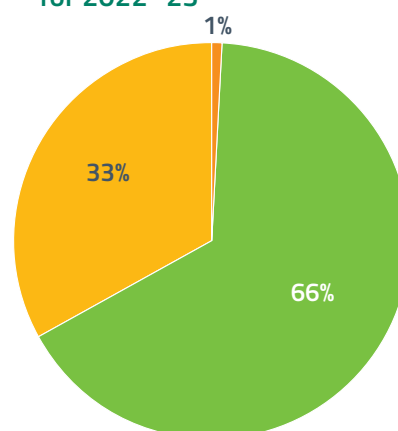
Total 13,996,655

Subscription funded expenditure
for 2022–23



- Strategic Priority 1 – Respond effectively
- Strategic Priority 2 – Strengthen partnerships
- Operational Priority 1 – Improve governance & administration
- Operational Priority 2 – Enhance communication & engagement

Non-subscription funded expenditure
for 2022–23



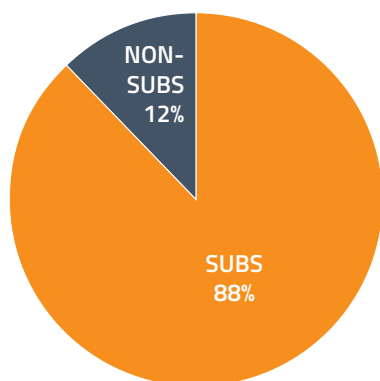
- Strategic Priority 1 – Respond effectively
- Strategic Priority 2 – Strengthen partnerships
- Strategic Priority 3 – Enhance integration



STRATEGIC PRIORITY

1

Respond effectively



We will advance Australia's collective ability to respond and recover from plant pest incursions.

Action 1.1 Strengthening and expanding the scope of national response arrangements.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Plant biosecurity response arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement priority outcomes from the 2020 review of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) and provide progress reports to Parties in November 2022 and May 2023. Principles supporting national partnership arrangements for responding to Emergency Plant Pests (EPPs) that are not feasible to eradicate identified by December 2022. Normal commitments review and revised frameworks endorsed by signatories by June 2023. Improve awareness and capability of Parties to implement their responsibilities in respect of Owner Reimbursement Costs (ORC). Develop and improve guidance material to enhance Parties' understanding and implementation of the EPPRD. 	●	<p>Under the plant biosecurity response arrangements, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> developed and endorsed new ORC evidence frameworks for the melon and sweet potato industries provided a revised framework for the honeybee industry, which is being applied in the current <i>varroa destructor</i> response commenced development of frameworks for the almond, apple and pear, hazelnut, processing tomatoes, and raspberry and blackberry industries. There are now 16 cropping sectors that have an ORC Evidence Framework in place, supporting a higher level of readiness to respond to a plant biosecurity incident developed and delivered Biosecurity Incident Standard Operating Procedure (BISOP) training to the Almond Board of Australia commenced a review of the <i>Urban and peri-urban biosecurity guidelines</i> commenced development of guidance material to support understanding of confidentiality.

Non-subscription

Action 1.2 Strengthening response readiness and resilience.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Plant biosecurity response preparedness and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver two 'industry liaison' (IL) training workshops in collaboration with state and territory government Parties. Deliver new eLearning content that supports 'just in time' training and improved capability of Members in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> financial aspects of responses being an IL representative ORCs Develop a draft resource package/ toolkit to support signatories to the EPPRD to extend training on national arrangements to growers and local industry groups by May 2023. Improve knowledge and understanding of the EPPRD, including roles and responsibilities of stakeholders through enhanced accessibility of available training options. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To strengthen response readiness, we've completed a full revision of the IL training to ensure it is fit-for-purpose and meets industry needs and expectations. The revised training will be delivered in two parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part One, which is a new eLearning course scheduled for release early 2023. This course establishes foundational theory for the IL function and also serves as a 'just in time' refresher course Part Two, in which the theory outlined in the eLearning course will be embedded through practical knowledge and application in a face-to-face workshop. The first of these workshops will be delivered in collaboration with Biosecurity Queensland in early 2023. Development of a resource toolkit is underway, with members from the Plant Industry Forum consulted on proposed content.
eLearning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Necessary skills and subject matter knowledge provided to assist Members to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop their own courses and/or utilise the functionality of PHA's eLearning platform and administration support to host their own biosecurity related courses. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In collaboration with Biosecurity Queensland and New South Wales Department of Primary Industries, we have developed and released two new 'Hitchhiker Pests' and 'Greenlife Retailer Pests and Diseases' eLearning training packages to support the adoption of best practice biosecurity measures in businesses that deal with goods and cargo at critical points along the supply chain as well as those working in retail nurseries. Supported Citrus Australia in the development of a CitrusWatch eLearning course aimed at improving the understanding of the CitrusWatch program for volunteers participating in the Early Detector Network. The course was written by Citrus Australia, designed by PHA, and will be hosted on PHA's Biosecurity Online Training (BOLT) portal in early 2023. Supporting the Australian Forestry Products Association (AFPA) in the development of an eLearning course to improve the understanding of pest and disease threats to Australia's forest industry. The course will be launched in March 2023.
Simulation exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oriental fruit fly simulation exercise delivered, and final report provided in accordance with all contractual requirements by June 2023. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oriental fruit fly simulation exercise planning is ongoing.
Biosecurity response preparedness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective engagement as a member of the National Biosecurity Response Team (NBRT) Advisory Group, leading to the successful planning and delivery of recruitment, induction, professional development, and training activities. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing successful engagement in the NBRT Advisory Group, supporting professional development of jurisdiction responders. An eLearning course for functional awareness is under development and aims to provide ongoing knowledge of the functional areas within the control centre structure and is based on a NBRT workshop that was run in August 2022.

Action 1.3 Cultivating collaborations that improve national response arrangements.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
National co-ordination and cross sectoral engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively engage in national government committees, promoting the needs and expectations of stakeholders in plant biosecurity. Develop and deliver applicable cross sectoral training in collaboration with Animal Health Australia (AHA). 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness training was delivered to senior staff in the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), in collaboration with AHA.

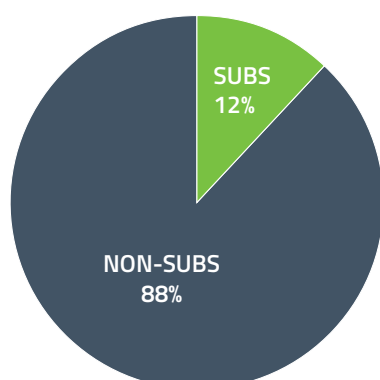
Action 1.4 Reviewing and sharing learnings to improve responses.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Biosecurity response operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure appropriately skilled and trained PHA personnel participate in notified incidents in accordance with all specified terms and timeframes of the EPPRD. Actively support affected government and Industry Parties throughout major incidents by providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> advice on the EPPRD targeted, just-in-time training other support as appropriate. Conduct timely evaluation activities to support continual learning and improvement of national response arrangements, with collated findings and lessons presented to Parties in May 2023. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided significant support to government parties and 24 industry parties through negotiations on eradication responses for <i>varroa destructor</i>, polyphagous shot hole borer and banana freckle. Involved in resolving outcomes to seven other potential emergency plant pests under the EPPRD, along with 19 Industry Parties, and all government Parties. Ongoing support for the successful completion of the khapra beetle and exotic fruit fly response plans agreed in previous years. As of 31 December 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> only three out of the 38 industry signatories have not been involved in an existing or new incident under the EPPRD we have collectively worked 1,161 hours on incursion management with 837 of those hours (equating to 110 days) worked on the <i>varroa destructor</i> response.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

2


Strengthen partnerships





We will develop cohesive networks amongst our members, the supply chain and the science and technology community.



Action 2.1 Building new partnerships to face future risks

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
New partnerships to strengthen the Australian plant biosecurity system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased engagement about the importance of plant biosecurity through new or extended networks or joint industry-government forums. New partnership proposals developed to address biosecurity risks. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held two joint industry-government surveillance forums on engagement and the value of big data. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared the learnings from the Indigenous-led forestry initiative at the national Environmental Biosecurity Webinar, and forest health surveillance and diagnostics lessons shared with Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy (NAQS) staff in Darwin. In collaboration with DAFF, NAQS, Western Australia Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and industry representatives, developed a new project to enhance collaborative surveillance and data sharing programs with northern Australian industries and jurisdictions. The 'Pilot Surveillance Data Collaboration' project will commence in early 2023 and will provide guidance to future collaborative data sharing opportunities nationally. Met with potential new PHA members to discuss their biosecurity challenges and opportunities, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicinal Cannabis Industry Australia (MCIA) in partnership with DAFF staff from Import Operations, Plant Science and Risk Assessment and Plant Health Policy branches Australian Seed Federation (ASF). Signed MoU with the Australian National University (ANU) to host student interns to commence in the first semester of 2023. Supported ANU's proposed Australian Research Council (ARC) Training Centre in Plant Biosecurity with in-kind contribution to support programs that focus on extension, adoption, and science communication.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
New partnerships to strengthen the Australian plant biosecurity system (continued) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective delivery of project milestones through the Australian Government's Biosecurity Business grant: 'Safeguarding northern Indigenous-led forestry' including engagement and training with Indigenous communities in northern Australia. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed field campaigns in East Arnhem Land and the Tiwi Islands for the 'Safeguarding northern Indigenous-led forestry' project.


Action 2.2 Improving our existing partnerships for emerging risks.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
National committees and working groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend and contribute to meetings of national committees and working groups, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Biosecurity Committee (NBC) Plant Health Committee (PHC) Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access Subcommittee on Plant Health Diagnostics Subcommittee on National Plant Health Surveillance Australian Fruit Fly Technical Advisory Subcommittee Plant Biosecurity Preparedness Working Group Environment and Invasives Committee Northern Australia Biosecurity Framework Reference Group. Other ad hoc committees and working groups as required. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended and contributed to six national committees and two working groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Biosecurity Committee (NBC), attended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NBC37 in September 2022 Plant Health Committee (PHC), attended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHC61 in July 2022 PHC Intersessional in September 2022 PHC62 virtual meeting in November 2022 Australian Fruit Fly Technical Advisory Subcommittee (AFFTAC), attended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFFTAC 09 in August 22 AFFTAC 10 in November 2022 Subcommittee on Plant Health Diagnostics (SPHD) attended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPHD 35 in October 2022 Subcommittee on National Plant Health Surveillance (SNPHS) attended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SNPHS 21 in October 2022 Environment and Invasives Committee (EIC) attended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EIC10 in August 2022. Attended other national committees and working groups such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Australia Biosecurity Strategy technical group in July and December 2022 National Plant Biosecurity Strategy Governance Group in August 2022.
Strategic planning and reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present 2022 Annual Report (AR) and end of year financial statements to Members at the 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM). Report against agreed key performance indicators in the Mid-Year Performance Report (MYPR), secure approval by the Board and report to Members. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distributed the 2022 AR to all Members prior to and at the AGM. MYPR produced, approved by the Board, and reported to Members.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Improve biosecurity partnerships through collective engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and deliver further engagement opportunities and buy-in to the Decade of Biosecurity. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended implementation plan workshops and facilitated industry participation in national workshops.
Member liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold two general meetings annually to comply with legal requirements. Host at least two plant industry forum meetings and a joint PHA-AHA forum. Conduct two PHA member forum meetings annually. Hold at least one consultative meeting for all members between the annual general meeting and general meeting. Conduct one-on-one consultations with member organisations at least once and provide opportunities for input into 2023–24 operational priorities. Participate in industry/ government meetings as requested by members. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA member meetings (22nd AGM, 34th Plant Industry Forum, 11th PHA Members Meeting and 36th EPPRD Signatories meeting) held in November 2022 with presentations and content shared. Engagement with industry on Biosecurity Planning reference panel meetings. Hosted visits from the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA), Grains Biosecurity Officers, Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) and Grain Producers Australia (GPA), Hort Innovation, the National Fruit Fly Council (NFFC), Greenlife Industry Australia, Raspberries and Blackberries Australia, and Citrus industries, as well as many government Members at a variety of meetings. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) meetings with AFPA, Australian Honey Bee Industry Council, Avocadoes Australia, Australian Melon Association, and Australian Grape and Wine. One-on-one meetings with the Peanut Company of Australia, NT Farmers Association, Australian Melon Association and Australian Nut Industry Council. Provided secretariat support to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant Industries Forum Committee (PIFC) in August and November 2022 Plant Industries Biosecurity Committee (PIBC) meetings in November and December 2022. Made a submission to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Reference Committee (RRAT) inquiry into the adequacy of Australia's biosecurity measures and response preparedness in August 2022. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported the PIFC, and its Chair, to develop and support their submission to the RRAT into the adequacy of Australia's biosecurity measures and response preparedness in August and September 2022. Conducted High Throughput Sequencing workshops in September 2022 to raise awareness and understanding of this technology with our government and industry Members. Attended Grains Research and Development Corporation Boosting Diagnostics Next Steps Workshop in October 2022 to discuss current and future partnered programs. In discussion with Members, contributed a submission to the DAFF-led 'Have your say – sustainable funding and investment to strengthen biosecurity' in December 2022. Attended and sponsored the Australasian Plant Virology Workshop and the Hemipteran-Plant Interaction Symposium in December 2022, with keynote speakers and two collaborative presentations with Members. Board meeting (BM) communiques published on the PHA website and in Tendrils e-newsletter for BM107, BM108 and BM109.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Corporate communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce a monthly Tendrils e-newsletter. Grow newsletter subscriber base by five per cent. Secure media coverage of major PHA news in relevant media. Produce proactive articles for targeted media and industry magazines. Grow an online community by increasing reach and frequency of social media posts covering company news, aspects of the biosecurity system and industry spotlights. Maintain the corporate, program and member websites and increase the number of website visits. Produce accessible publications to schedule and promote them effectively. Participate in industry events with a biosecurity focus. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produced and distributed six monthly editions of our corporate e-newsletter Tendrils: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11.52 per cent increase in newsletter subscriptions Yearly target exceeded and doubled. Media monitoring captured 506 articles mentioning PHA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37.12 per cent increase in media mentions. Seven media interviews were organised, six media releases were written, and 48 articles were published. 1,241 social media posts across Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 603,224 impressions across all platforms Twitter: 150 new followers Facebook: 180 new followers LinkedIn: 1,160 new followers. Websites maintained with security patches and upgrades to the content management system: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 51,328 users of PHA website with 103,607 pageviews. Maintained nine program websites. Produced, published and promoted the 2022 Annual Report through multiple channels. Participated in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GrowCom Smart Cropping Centre Co-Design Day Parliamentary Friends of Primary Producers 11th International Symposium on Fruit Flies of Economic Importance Decade of Biosecurity workshop TropAg Phytosanitary Irradiation Strategic Workshop Citrus Industry Familiarisation tour FNQ Growers Field Day Australian Grains Industry Conference 11th Australasian Soilborne Disease Symposium Crawford Fund Annual Conference.





Action 2.3 Working with members to develop best practice solutions for preparedness, response and recovery.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Biosecurity planning and review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain and update the exotic pest database. ▪ Prepare proposals for development and review of three biosecurity plans. ▪ Update the Biosecurity Capability Index after completing each biosecurity plan. ▪ Update the Biosecurity Preparedness Portal with preparedness material for all Member plant industries as it becomes available. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exotic pest database updated with each new biosecurity plan released. ▪ Proposals developed and contracts executed with the relevant funding bodies for biosecurity plans for the sugarcane, tree nut, apple and pear industries. ▪ Biosecurity Capability Index continuously updated with new versions of biosecurity plans. ▪ The Biosecurity Preparedness Portal updated with new preparedness material as it is created or updated.
Development of biosecurity plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and revise biosecurity plans for grains, cotton, rice and citrus industries. ▪ Hold reference panels for avocado, berry (rubus and strawberry), ginger, mangoes, mushrooms, onions, plantation forestry, production nursery, summer fruit, sweet potatoes, tropical fruit (lychee, papaya and passionfruit) and viticulture industries. ▪ Develop project proposals for the sugarcane, tree nut and apple and pear industries. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Biosecurity plans for the grains, rice, cotton, and citrus industries underway, to be finalised and endorsed in 2023. ▪ 10 Reference panel meetings held with industry stakeholders and technical experts for the avocado, berry, mango, mushroom, plantation forestry, production nursery, summerfruit, sweet potato, tropical fruit and viticulture industries. ▪ Contracts for biosecurity planning for the sugarcane, tree nut, apple and pear industries have also been executed.


Action 2.4 Driving adoption of best practice solutions that reduce risk.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
National programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a quarterly report on Farm Biosecurity Program (FBP) activities under the program strategy at Board meetings. Develop resources for agronomists, consultants and veterinarians to help producers implement biosecurity measures. Develop and distribute articles for the Farm Biosecurity newsletter and industry publications. Sponsor a Nuffield Scholar to foster biosecurity leaders among producers. Support the Australian Biosecurity Awards. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New three-year communications strategy and implementation plan developed and presented to the AHA/PHA Board. FBP website updated with new resources. Hosted a joint AHA/PHA Foot and Mouth Disease webinar for mixed producers. Three bi-monthly newsletters produced and distributed to 3,100 subscriber base. Sponsored a Nuffield Scholar in Queensland who is investigating what prevents people from reporting diseases. Supported a plant producer nomination for the Australian Biosecurity Awards.
Levy management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the establishment of programs for industry members to improve grower management and preparedness for biosecurity risks and improve grower resilience following incursions. Monitor and manage the implementation of programs against agreed deliverables. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular MoU and project meetings with levied industry partners on track or completed. Monitoring and promoting project milestones of industry-funded biosecurity programs. Plant industries continue to raise awareness and develop knowledge and capacity within their industries, as demonstrated in updated websites that contain the latest biosecurity information, fact sheets, biosecurity events and or alerts, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biosecurity – Grain Producers Australia Biosecurity and crop protection resources – AUSVEG Melon Biosecurity Resources – Melons Australia Biosecurity Alerts – Greenlife Industry Biosecurity – Citrus Australia Biosecurity – Australian Banana Growers Biosecurity – Sugar Research Australia Biosecurity – Australian Grape & Wine Biosecurity – Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Biosecurity – Cotton Australia Pests & Biosecurity – Apple and Pear Australia Limited Biosecurity – Avocados Australia



Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
National Fruit Fly Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and prioritise key activities to improve the management of fruit flies across Australia. Conduct a minimum of three National Fruit Fly Council (NFFC) meetings. Monitor and report activities under the revised National Fruit Fly Strategy. Convene a series of workshops to engage on key issues of concern, to report R&D outputs, to discuss emerging issues and risks. Regularly update and promote Prevent Fruit Fly website and produce a regular e-newsletter. Develop relevant articles in association with industry journals. Present the Annual Report to stakeholders. Raise awareness of the national fruit fly system. Develop a better understanding of the impact of potential changes to fruit fly distribution through workshops and engagement opportunities. Support national discussions about sustainable funding of the national fruit fly system. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All KPIs met or on track. See the full year 2022 Annual Report and the National Fruit Fly Strategy 2021–2022.
National surveillance programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate national surveillance for high priority pests and collate surveillance data in AUSPestCheck® (APC). Establish the National Forest Pest Surveillance Program and coordinate surveillance for 20 forest pests at high-risk sites in at least three jurisdictions. Undertake surveillance for citrus pests through annual deployment of 1,000 yellow sticky traps with at least two targeted surveys. Develop material to raise biosecurity awareness of high priority pests and complete host lists for three high priority pests of citrus. Coordinate surveillance for 13 bee pests at nine high-risk ports and raise surveillance awareness for high priority pests of honey bees through the development of six industry articles. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry-led surveillance programs' KPIs on track, with Programs being developed for data collection within APC. The National Forest Pest Surveillance Collaboration Agreement, in partnership with AFPA, all states and territories and community groups to improve biosecurity and forest health, has been signed. Under this agreement, the National Forest Pest Surveillance Program commenced in late 2022. 580 yellow sticky traps were deployed for surveillance for exotic citrus psyllids within the national CitrusWatch biosecurity surveillance and awareness program. Targeted surveys were undertaken in NSW (urban areas of greater Sydney), NT (urban areas and commercial orchards near Darwin), and Victoria (urban areas of Melbourne). Three Early Detector Updates were developed to provide information on biosecurity and surveillance and an Annual Activity Report was released in December 2022. All KPIs for the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program are on track, with further stakeholder communications planned for first half of 2023.

Action 2.5 Collaborating with partners to ensure targeted communication, extension and training

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Surveillance training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop two training videos and a Reference Guide to support Standard Operating Procedures for the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program (NBSPSP). 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three training videos and a printed quick reference guide developed. Refreshed the <i>Biosecurity for Beekeepers</i> BOLT course to enhance user experience and support Code of Practice compliance.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY

3

Enhance integration







NON-SUBS
100%

We will improve Australia's ability to identify and detect biosecurity threats.



Action 3.1 Being a role model in the use of innovative technologies and approaches in plant biosecurity.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Digital systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Maintain AUSPestCheck® (APC) as an accessible national repository of plant biosecurity surveillance data.▪ Maintain the Australian Plant Pest Database (APPD) and Pest and Disease Image Library (PaDIL) as an accessible national repository of plant biosecurity data.▪ Trial AUSPestCheck® as a national repository and provider of animal biosecurity surveillance data.▪ Work with industry to build surveillance capacity through collation, visualisation and sharing of data.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ KPIs to maintain and trial APC have been met with annual reporting to DAFF and APC Governance Steering Committee complete.▪ APC permissions structure updated to allow greater control over access to data within Programs and between different Program Participants and facilitate better data sharing with more flexible and nuanced control over access.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Developed and delivered training on new APC Permissions.▪ New training modules on:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- using PowerBI for reporting, developed and delivered to a range of stakeholders through both online presentations and at the Annual Diagnostic and Surveillance Workshop (ADSW).- APC and APPD training delivered to system users at ADSW, as well as individualised DAFF training.▪ Industry engagement and APC stakeholder workshop due to commence in early 2023.▪ National Biosecurity Committee (NBC 37) endorsed a national cost-sharing model for five-years from July 2023 onwards to ensure sustainable funding of both APPD and PaDIL.

Action 3.2 Strengthening scientific rigour and capability.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Biosecurity network coordination to enhance the national diagnostics and surveillance systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop website content for National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostics Network (NPBDN) and Plant Surveillance Network Australasia-Pacific (PSNAP) to ensure relevance and current knowledge is available. Coordinate professional development activities for NPBDN and PSNAP, through delivery of the annual workshops, skills-based training workshops and residential programs to address national capability gaps. Promote and expand membership of the NPBDN and PSNAP networks. Develop a national diagnostics and surveillance capability plan to identify and prioritise activities for priority plant pests. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website content continuously updated. Combined Annual Diagnostics and Surveillance Workshop (ADSW) was held mid-2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 abstracts received, 132 in person registrations, 69 virtual registrations and seven additional workshops. The next ADSW scheduled for May 2023. Hosted a PestBlitz field triage workshop in Adelaide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> attended by 20 participants with multi-disciplinary diagnostics and surveillance backgrounds from both government and industry. National Diagnostic Protocols Webinar held in September 2022 with 91 attendees. Engaged with members on a national diagnostic capability survey in December 2022. Draft national diagnostic and surveillance capability plans developed with further consultation with SPHD and SNPHS required to finalise. Six Diagnostic and one Surveillance Residentials were funded from the Professional Development Program. Two NPBDN newsletters and one PSNAP newsletter circulated to members. Communications strategy and implementation plan developed to raise awareness, expand membership, and promote professional development opportunities. Project progress reports completed in December 2022. Draft national diagnostic and surveillance capability plans completed in December 2022.
Protocols to support surveillance and diagnostics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate the development or review of National Diagnostic Protocols (NDP) and National Surveillance Protocols (NSP) for agreed National Priority Plant Pests and Industry High Priority Pests to improve efficiencies in the development processes. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five NDPs and three NSPs endorsed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endorsed NDPs published on the NPBDN website. NSPs published on PSNAP website. National Diagnostic Protocols draft project plan to prioritise protocols for national and high priority plant pests for development, review and verification to endorsement developed and submitted to the DAFF and the SPHD Diagnostic Protocol Working Group. Completed review of NDPs, NSPs and the International Plant Protection Convention Diagnostic Protocols for the top 42 national plant priority pests in October 2022.
Proficiency testing of diagnostic laboratories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the provision of samples to the National Plant Health Proficiency Testing Program. Support the National Plant Health Proficiency Testing Program to negotiate material transfer agreements to facilitate sample movement across jurisdictions. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated the provision of insect, fungi, bacteria, virus, and nematode specimen samples for round 10 of the National Plant Health Proficiency Testing Program. Round 11 of the National Plant Health Proficiency Testing Program was carried out by NPBDN participating laboratories. Participated in the SPHD workshop on the importation and domestic movement of viable organisms which will eventually support the national agreement for material transfer across jurisdictions.

Action 3.3 Establishing PHA as the knowledge broker for plant biosecurity.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
National programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the new decadal National Plant Biosecurity Strategy (NPBS) and its sub-strategies and implementation plans. In conjunction with Members, implement the NPBS and associated sub-strategies. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2022–23 Action plans developed for the National Plant Biosecurity Strategy and its sub-strategies on preparedness, surveillance and diagnostics. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The action plans outline key activities that contribute to the delivery of actions in the strategies and will help to identify gaps and opportunities for collaboration across the system.

Action 3.4 Continually improving Australia's biosecurity systems and processes.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Digital systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain hardware for hosting websites. Provide technical website support to ensure our service requirements maintained. Maintain and improve web security to protect PHA and Member organisations. Seek funding for the development of new online resources and enhancements to existing sites. Maintain the Biosecurity Portal. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to seek funds to maintain hardware, host and provide technical support and enhancements for PHA hosted websites. Continue to make jurisdiction content changes to the Australian Interstate Quarantine website, while at the same time actively seeking a new hosting arrangement for this website. Maintained the Biosecurity Portal, with essential infrastructure upgrades.
Digital systems to support diagnostics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the Australian Plant Pest Database (APPD) to inform pest status in suspect EPP Incidents. APPD managed to support aggregation of information from reference collections. Provide, maintain and regularly update the NPBDN and PSNAP websites for members. Maintain the Pest and Disease Image Library (PaDIL) as an online resource for diagnosticians, including those verifying border intercepts. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relaunched APPD site approaching 300 users from across 15 organisations with training delivered to many of these users. NPBDN and PSNAP websites regularly updated. Redeveloped PaDIL launched at ADSW in August 2022 with streamlined new look, contemporary design, enhanced search functionality and species comparison tools. An additional 13 priority pest insect species were captured with high resolution diagnostic images and added to PaDIL with accompanying data sheets. Stakeholder engagements for the 'National coordination of high throughput sequencing (HTS) data for a connected diagnostics system Phase 1' completed.
Surveillance programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a model(s) for establishing and maintaining a national surveillance system for plant pests. Convene a series of meetings with stakeholders in plant industries and governments to identify priorities and options for delivery and resourcing of a national surveillance system. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft discussion paper developed outlining the requirements of the national plant biosecurity system and potential models for its delivery into the future. Initiated consultancy to undertake interviews with all PHA Members in early 2023 to identify priorities, challenges, and options for improving the plant biosecurity surveillance system.

Action 3.5 Engaging the community to enhance reporting of biosecurity threats.

There are no current activities that directly align with this action. It is generally linked to the delivery of other actions in the strategic plan.

Action 3.6 Capturing greater benefits from national and international initiatives.

There are no current activities that directly align with this action. It is generally linked to the delivery of other actions in the strategic plan.



OPERATIONAL
PRIORITY

1

Improve governance & administration

SUBS
100%

Build a robust company with effective,
efficient processes that deliver good
governance and management.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Board management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Performance of PHA meets Members' expectations.▪ Meet legal and constitutional compliance requirements.▪ Provide secretariat support to the Board and follow-up Board, F&AC and other meetings attended by directors.▪ Attendance of the PHA Board at over 80 per cent of requested member and stakeholder meetings.▪ Assist the PHA Board with developing and progressing the 2023 Board selection process.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Conducted 2022 PHA Members' survey with results to be reviewed in early 2023.▪ Legal and constitutional compliance met.▪ Secretarial support to the Board and Board committees met.▪ PHA Board attended 100 per cent of member and stakeholder meetings.▪ The 2023 Board selection process will commence in the first quarter of 2023.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Company finance and administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meet all legal and constitutional obligations. ▪ Review the Company Risk Management. ▪ Report quarterly on risk and include as a standing item for PHA Board and F&AC meetings. ▪ Review and update the Company Human Resources Plan annually and present to the Board. ▪ Have annual financial statements externally audited and declared accurate and compliant. ▪ Schedule and implement internal audit program and address findings. ▪ Present PHA's 2022–23 budget and AOP to members and agree subscriptions in May 2023. ▪ Continue to build on the PHA and AHA partnership. ▪ Assist members to implement and manage statutory biosecurity levies. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All KPIs met or on track as evidenced in the 2022 Annual Report. ▪ Risk reviewed at each Board meeting. ▪ Risk appetite workshop held in November 2022. ▪ Company Human Resources plan review complete and report submitted to the Board. ▪ The 2022 financial statements contained in the 2022 Annual Report received a clean audit report from Synergy. ▪ An internal audit on Cyber Security was completed in December 2022 with a second internal audit on Business Continuity and Disaster recovery Plans to commence in the first quarter of 2023. ▪ The 2022–23 budget and AOP to be presented to Members prior to the General Meeting in May 2023 for discussion. ▪ Cooperation between the two companies continues with a strong partnership in the areas of emergency response training, the Farm Biosecurity Program, FMD preparedness and general communication. ▪ Ongoing work with Members and the Commonwealth to establish and amend statutory biosecurity levies as required. ▪ Amendments to the <i>Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002</i>, received Royal Assent in December 2022.



OPERATIONAL
PRIORITY

2

Enhance
communication
& engagement



Enhance PHA’s reputation to support
company sustainability and growth.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Communications and engagement strategy and plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Increased stakeholder engagement tracked via media mentions, media coverage, page views, social engagement, open and click through rates, event/meeting attendance.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Work in progress.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Refer to current metrics included under Strategic Priority 2, Action 2.2 Corporate Communications.
Corporate identity guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Publish and maintain a contemporary and practical guide supported by a full suite of easy-to-use templates on the company intranet.Inclusion in employee induction process.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed a corporate style guide to provide consistent standards for the production of marketing and communications materials to maintain a consistent, recognisable and professional identity.Full suite of Microsoft Office templates developed, distributed, and published internally.

Portfolio	KPIs	Status	Achievements
Internal communications strategy and plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased employee engagement rates tracked via open rates, intranet reads, page views, staff turnover rate, internal promotion rate, active social ambassadors. Response rates to annual staff survey. 	<div>●</div> <div>●</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed internal communications strategy and implementation plan rolled out. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Company intranet developed and launched 316 page views within the first three months. Launched the Learning Strategy internally. Earmarked for delivery in 2023.
Improving member onboarding process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce a new Member onboarding information package to support government, industry and associate members. 	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content framework for onboarding information package currently under development.
Developing member training strategy and program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation with Members on the process and timeline for development of a PHA training strategy and program. 	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training strategy under development.




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