

National Fruit Fly Strategy Implementation Report 2020-21



Acknowledgements

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Overview

The National Fruit Fly Strategy 2020–25 provides a framework for stakeholders to coordinate fruit fly activities across Australia. While no new funding has been provided for the strategy, annual implementation plans are developed to identify and monitor key activities that have been prioritised by stakeholders and resourced.

Each implementation report acknowledges the considerable and ongoing contribution by many different stakeholders to fruit fly management in Australia.

The National Fruit Fly Council oversees the implementation plans for the strategy. The Council brings together governments, growers and research funders to provide advice and strategically contribute to issues through forums such as the National Biosecurity Committee, Plant Health Committee, Hort Innovation, and peak industry bodies and grower groups. The Council prepares a formal report against each implementation plan annually to assist in reviewing progress against the strategy's Strategic Framework.

Groups contributing to implementation plan activities	
DAWE	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
States & Territories	State and territory governments and their respective agricultural departments
NFFC	National Fruit Fly Council – representatives from the federal, state and territory governments, Hort Innovation, industry and Plant Health Australia (PHA)
PHC	Plant Health Committee – Plant Health Managers (federal, state and territory governments) SDQMA – Sub-Committee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access SPHD – Sub-Committee on Plant Health Diagnostics SNPHS – Sub-Committee on Plant Health Surveillance
ATGA	Australian Table Grapes Association
AMIA	Australian Mango Industry Association
Berries Australia	A joint venture between Australian Blueberry Growers' Association (ABGA), Strawberries Australia Inc (SAI) and Raspberries and Blackberries Australia Incorporated (RABA)
Citrus Australia Ltd	The recognised peak industry body representing the nation's commercial citrus growers
SA Horticulture Coalition	The peak industry organisation for horticulture in South Australia
Steritech	Irradiation treatment provider for industries that require sterilisation and decontamination
Regions	Regional grower groups, local governments and communities supporting fruit fly management
Agriculture Victoria	Victorian Government Department of Jobs, Precincts, and Regions
NSW DPI	New South Wales Government Department of Primary Industries
DPIPWE	Tasmanian Government Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
DPIRD	Western Australian Government Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
PIRSA	South Australian Government Department of Primary Industries and Regions
QDAF	Queensland Government Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
Hort Innovation	Research and development corporation for Australia's horticulture industry
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation



Implementation Plan Progress Report Highlights

1 - Market access



- Achieved access of cherries to Korea under fumigation protocol from mainland states (except WA) and approval from India for in-transit cold treatment of summerfruit.
- Developed new data packages for fruit flies for table grapes, mandarins, nectarines, apples, plums, and strawberries.
- Released a national Fruit Fly Sterile Insect Technique policy in relation to trade for public consultation.
- Delivered a review of the Interstate Certification Assurance scheme to Plant Health Committee and reviewed several ICA arrangements including Pre-harvest field control and inspection of strawberries (ICA-34), Fumigating with methyl bromide (ICA-04) and the use of systems approaches (e.g. ICA-21).
- Gained Food Standards Australia New Zealand approval for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure for all fruits and vegetables.

2 - Management of established fruit fly



- Progressed multiple research projects supporting best-practice of fruit fly management including for smart traps, SIT releases, trapping efficacy, and parasitoids.
- Conducted a beneficiary analysis for eradication of Medfly from Australia and for the SIT Medfly facility in WA.
- Investigated future scenarios for the Qfly SITPlus program and associated benefit-costs.
- \$6.4 million secured for fruit fly area wide management activities under Victoria's Fruit Fly Strategy 2021-2025.

3 - Prevention, preparedness and response



- Endorsement of a new Exotic Fruit Flies in the Torres Strait Response Program for a five-year period 2021-2026.
- Maintenance of thousands of fruit fly traps and reporting across Australia for early detection of exotic species and spread of established species.
- Production of a Medfly preparedness plan by Victoria, and state/territory governments worked to align their procedures with the new National Fruit Fly Management Protocols.
- Eradication of Qfly fruit fly outbreaks in Western Australia.
- Coordination of large-scale response to Qfly and Medfly outbreaks in South Australia.

4 - Research



- Commissioned six projects under the \$13M Strengthening Australia's Fruit Fly Management System Research Program.
- Commissioned a project on Preparedness for oriental fruit fly and exotic flies.
- Hosted a "Fruit Fly Chemical Ecology Online Workshop" by the ARC Centre for Fruit Fly Biosecurity Innovation.
- Identified fruit fly research needs from growers during a series of online workshops.

5 - Surveillance



- Completed a review of the exotic fruit fly surveillance design and methodology in collaboration with the Subcommittee on National Plant Health Surveillance.
- Commenced review of trapping networks in several jurisdictions and proceeded with a Lure and Bait Technology working group.
- Progressed the collection of state and territory government fruit fly trapping data into a single system (AUSPestCheck™).

6 - Diagnostics



- National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostics Network has 547 members from 40 different organisations across Australia and South East Asia - its website hosted several thousand member sessions in 2021-22.
- Achieved NATA accreditation for Biosecurity Queensland Fruit Fly Laboratory for the diagnosis of exotic fruit fly.

7 - Communication and engagement



- Finalised the internal communication and stakeholder engagement framework for the delivery of the Australian government's Smart Fruit Fly Management measure.
- Implemented regional specific fruit fly communication strategies, including for metropolitan and regional areas of Victoria and South Australia, outbreak areas in Western Australia, and communities in Tasmania.
- Delivered SITPlus webinar and media release (34 pieces of coverage and 15 radio and TV broadcasts- reaching more than 1 million people).

8 - Cooperation



- Shared information with affected industries and governments on the Exotic Fruit Flies in Torres Strait Eradication program.
- Held regular national government forums to consider fruit fly and other plant health issues via the National Biosecurity Committee and Plant Health Committee.



Council Key Achievements (June 2020-June 2021)

Webinar Series



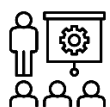
Six webinars held, "Research program for strengthening Australia's Fruit fly system", "Sterile Insect Technique for Mediterranean Fruit Fly and Qfly", "Phyosanitary irradiation", "Interstate Certification Assurance Scheme", "Webinar on biocontrol program", and the "National Fruit Fly Strategy 2020-25".

Regional workshops



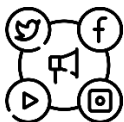
Conducted 12 online regional grower workshops with over 100 growers and grower representatives to gather information about on-farm fruit fly issues and priorities.

East-West distribution workshops



Nine online workshops conducted to discuss the East-West fruit fly distribution profile in international trade negotiations and consider preparedness for a Medfly outbreak in an eastern state.

Communication and Media engagement



Posted 13 e-newsletters and achieved a 24% increase in subscribers. Shared 80 tweets on the Prevent Fruit Fly Twitter account and increased followed by 8%. Distributed two industry-specific fruit fly articles that were developed by Council.

Revised National Fruit Fly Strategy and Action Plan



Launch of a new National Fruit Fly Strategy 2020-2025 and associated Implementation Plan 2020-21 in November 2020.

Prevent Fruit Fly Website



Updated the Prevent Fruit Fly website to better fit with the themes of the National Fruit Fly Strategy including a separate page for each priority area. The website had 54,406 page views and 30,213 users, an increase from last year of 351% and 393% respectively.

National Fruit Fly Symposium



Delivered the 2021 National Fruit Fly symposium online on 4-6 May 2021 – involving over 420 registrants, 38 speakers, and nine hours of content.

Membership



Council expanded its industry membership to include Brett Kennedy (SA Riverland Fruit Fly Coordinator), Brett Squibb (Tasmania apple grower) and David Daniels (General Manager of Market Development for Citrus Australia).

Council Meetings



The Council met six times in the last reporting period, both virtually and through hybrid meetings with virtual and face-to-face attendance, including two extraordinary out-of-session meetings for high-priority fruit fly issues.



The strategic framework

Vision

Australia has a robust fruit fly management system that supports growth in horticultural production, market access and trade.

Goal

Australia will have a contemporary, viable, cost-effective, and coordinated national approach to fruit fly management, with stakeholders committed to the national strategy.

Strategic objectives



MAINTAIN AUSTRALIA'S FREEDOM FROM EXOTIC FRUIT FLY

Maintaining freedom from exotic fruit flies is important to the sustainability of Australia's horticultural industries.

Key Performance Indicator: *Incursion(s) of exotic fruit fly in Australia are detected early and eradicated*



MINIMISE THE INCIDENCE AND SPREAD OF FRUIT FLY

Improving the management and suppression of established fruit fly species and preventing their further spread will help support productivity, reduce management costs, and enable trade and market access opportunities through low pest prevalence and pest free areas.

Key Performance Indicator: *Domestic and international recognition of fruit fly pest free areas is retained or increased.*



IMPLEMENT NATIONAL SYSTEMS THAT SUPPORT MARKET ACCESS

Being able to provide markets (domestic and international) confidence in our fruit fly system will ensure Australian growers can capitalise on our reputation for high quality produce.

Key Performance Indicator: *No critical non-conformance in the national fruit fly assurance system.*



FACILITATE A COOPERATIVE AND COMMITTED NATIONAL APPROACH TO FRUIT FLY MANAGEMENT

Cooperation of governments, industries and communities, who operate in different fruit fly management areas, is vital to the success of the fruit fly system.

Key Performance Indicator: *Consistency between the strategy and strategic fruit fly objectives of governments, industries and communities.*



Priority areas

Eight different, yet interdependent, priority areas have been identified for the strategy.

1. Market access



Develop a framework of policy, legislation and operations that enables market access with the least trade restrictive measures, is legally enforceable and technically justified.

2. Management of established fruit fly



Build and promote efficient and effective methods to manage established fruit fly species, to reduce the impact on production and to facilitate access to sensitive markets.

3. Prevention, preparedness and response



Continue to support the development and resourcing of prevention, preparedness and response measures for incursions or outbreaks.

4. Research



Maintain and enhance fruit fly research capability, capacity and resources, pursuing research and extension that focus on nationally agreed priorities.

5. Surveillance



Ensure a nationally consistent surveillance framework that provides clarity around fruit fly distribution, prevalence and control.

6. Diagnostics



Maintain and enhance rapid diagnostic capability and capacity to support responses to incursions or outbreaks and to confirm area freedom.

7. Communication and engagement



Adopt systems and mechanisms for the efficient and effective communication, training, extension and uptake of fruit fly information by a broad range of audiences.

8. Cooperation



Maintain and enhance engagement processes that serve to coordinate, progress and improve fruit fly management systems.



PRIORITY AREA 1- MARKET ACCESS

KEY STAKEHOLDER ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Negotiate international market access protocols for fruit fly that maintain, improve or open access to markets.	DAWE	Ongoing
<p><i>In 2020, access to cherries from mainland states (excluding Western Australia) to Korea under a fumigation protocol was achieved, and India granted approval for in-transit cold treatment of summer fruit.</i></p> <p><i>In light of ongoing outbreaks in the Riverland, market maintenance activities have been a primary focus in 2021. Vietnam granted interim approval for the Merrifield phytosanitary irradiation facility (cherries, table grapes, oranges). Bangladesh has granted verbal approval of in-transit cold treatment for citrus and table grapes (awaiting formal written approval).</i></p>		
Communicate international market access requirements for fruit fly and associated issues to industry and state/territory governments.	DAWE	Ongoing
<p><i>A Policy for Fruit Fly Sterile Insect Technique in relation to trade has been released for public consultation. The department has worked through several committees with states and territories to explain the importance of trading partner perceptions and sensitivities about fruit fly management. A written response was also provided to Victoria's discussion paper regarding its fruit fly strategy including advice supporting Victoria's approach to market sensitive species.</i></p>		
Strengthen current market access data packages and address any perceived gaps to support negotiation of international market access.	DAWE / Hort Innovation	Ongoing
<p><i>Australia's National Fruit Fly Management Protocols (the Protocols) are continuing to be developed through the Australian Fruit Fly Technical Advisory Committee (AFFTAC) into a more modernised format. AFFTAC are working towards clarification of ambiguities and current procedures of fruit fly management.</i></p> <p><i>Following the AFFTAC meeting in June 2021, amendments were being made to the Delivery Policy. Once the Delivery Policy of the Protocols has been endorsed by AFFTAC and Plant Health Committee (PHC), it will be introduced to trading partners where required, with the objective that these documents will be accepted as the replacement for the former fruit fly Codes of Practice.</i></p> <p><i>Several Hort Innovation projects have delivered new data packages for flies for Table Grapes, Mandarins, Nectarines, Apples, Plums and Strawberries. Hort Innovation project BB19001 (Additional cold treatment schedule for Qfly in Blueberries for market access to China) has been executed and is now underway.</i></p> <p><i>Hort Frontiers AM19002: Building Capacity in Irradiation to Agriculture Victoria, has been contracted. The project aims to remove barriers to the acceptance of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure internationally. On the 28th of April 2021, FSANZ approved an application (A1193) to permit the use of irradiation on fresh fruit and vegetables as a phytosanitary measure.</i></p> <p><i>Hort Innovation AM17001: Developing a national systems approach for meeting key Asian markets, is nearing completion. The project recently launched the Phytosanitary Systems Approach Online Resource Centre</i></p> <p><i>South Australia has initiated two extraordinary sessions of PHC to discuss the use of systems approaches in domestic trade without approved end point treatments in PFAs. Agreement has been reached to form a working group to validate ICA 21 to support use domestically and international market access needs.</i></p>		
Finalise the stabilisation phase of the Fruit Fly National Management Protocols	DAWE	July 2020
<p><i>Work is continuing to complete the stabilisation phase of the National Management Protocols.</i></p> <p><i>DAWE is continuing to work with AFFTAC members to progress the Delivery Guidelines and Delivery Reference. It is anticipated that these will be provided to PHC for endorsement before the end of 2021.</i></p>		



Align management practices to the Fruit Fly National Management Protocols	PHC / States & Territories	December 2020
<p><i>The Australian Fruit Fly Technical Advisory Committee is the group reviewing the National Management Protocols (NMPs) and includes technical representatives of state and territory of governments. One of the key issues considered by AFFTAC was reinstatement criteria (SOP11) and several papers to PHC were drafted on this matter.</i></p>		
Seek acceptance of the Fruit Fly National Management Protocols from trading partners.	DAWE	Ongoing
<p><i>The Delivery Policy of the Protocols will be introduced to trading partners when finalised and as appropriate. In the meantime, DAWE has been keeping communication lines open with trading partners and providing summary documents on Australia's fruit fly management, when required.</i></p>		
Monitor national fruit fly system assurance activities that underpin international market access, including obligations to demonstrate pest status.	DAWE / States & Territories	Ongoing
<p><i>The fruit fly Assurance Framework has been mapped out with the scope of fruit fly activities being established including the audit framework to verify the application of the Australian National Fruit Fly Management protocols by states and territories. The audit framework has been included in the Protocols and agreed in principle by AFFTAC. Work is continuing on the implementation of standards for document control, systems for assurance activities and change management processes for the Australia's National Fruit Fly Management Protocols.</i></p> <p><i>All states maintain their trapping network and response to fruit fly outbreaks in accordance with the national fruit fly system assurance activities. Updates on the fruit fly trapping systems across the states are as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queensland no exotics have been found in these states during the January-June 2021 reporting period and this data is used to support international market access. • Victoria no exotics have been found in these states during the January-June 2021 reporting period and this data is used to support international market access. Victoria will also review its southwest general fruit fly surveillance program to be evaluated with key findings informing decision making processes across the broader fruit fly reporting and awareness program. • Tasmania maintains over 1000 cuelure/capilure charged Lynfield traps with an additional 25-30 methyl eugenol charged Lynfield traps at high-risk points as part of the Tasmanian Fruit Fly Operations Standard to demonstrate that Tasmania's Fruit Fly Pest Free Area (PFA) status. • South Australia has additional controls (permanent quarantine stations at state entry points, random roadblock campaign, annual community awareness campaign, legislative controls) to support national assurance activities. • New South Wales is preparing to adopt Max platform and use Trapbase for trap data. The trapping grid for the Sydney basin will be revised and rolled out supported by trap base and further improvements made as per the DAWE 2018 National exotic fruit fly surveillance program. • Western Australia maintains several trapping networks to demonstrate area freedom from Qfly, early warning for exotic fruit fly species in major ports, and area freedom from Medfly in the Ord River Irrigation Area. Trapping grids in the south-west of WA and north of the metropolitan area in avocado production area are also used for international market access. 		
Complete the first phase of the Interstate Trade Review and the Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) Scheme review (against ISO9000 and auditing arrangements), including industry engagement.	PHC / SDQMA & PHA	June 2021
<p><i>A review of the ICA scheme has been conducted and a final report submitted to PHC for consideration.</i></p>		
Monitor and report against the domestic phytosanitary system for	PHC / States &	Ongoing



fruit fly through the National ICA Audit Program.	Territories	
<p>All states participate in the National ICA Audit Program (NIAP). Some updates on this are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Victoria the NIAP program is on hold as a result of the national response to COVID-19. An addendum to the ICA rules has been enacted to allow state agencies to audit ICA arrangements remotely in accordance with the requirements of standard audit processes (i.e., checklists). • South Australia continues to audit against the ICA Addendum (Recovery Phase). Imported material verified on arrival with non-conformances are reported and investigated as required under agreed National guidelines. Northern Territory and Queensland audited the South Australian ICA program in late May, and outcomes are expected to be finalised by end of July. • Queensland is now scheduled to undergo a NIAP audit of the state in third quarter of 2021. The audit will be conducted by South Australia (lead auditor) and Victoria. • In New South Wales audits are continuing with remote auditing and face to face where possible. • The incident reporting program in Tasmania is managed by the Market Access team within Plant Biosecurity Diagnostics Branch. For the 2020/2021 program season in Tasmania, apart from some early instances with Qfly detections in passionfruit there were no significant incidents. Increased border inspection intensities will re commence in September 2021. • A documentation clearance and visual inspection (audit) and verification inspection of treatment are conducted to ensure compliance with all nationally agreed protocols that Western Australia has accepted under the ICA scheme. 		
Investigate and rectify areas of non-compliance identified in the national and domestic systems that underpin market access.	DAWE & PHC / States & Territories	Ongoing
<p>DAWE will undertake facilitated visits with NT, TAS, VIC, WA and SA to assist with a comparison of the Delivery Guidelines to the relevant state or territory standard operating procedures. Verification visits to states and territories are planned for the second half of 2021.</p> <p>Tasmania accepts ICA protocols as an equal measure to a particular import requirement (where applicable) i.e., regulatory equivalence.</p> <p>Victoria has investigated to five reported treatment failures for quarantine pre-treatment in the past six months including reports of infested passion fruits and pomelo fruits (first record is commercial fruit).</p> <p>In South Australia several non-compliance incidents were reported to relevant interstate jurisdiction for investigation. In the last six months, 10 incidents have been investigated and resolved including changes to procedures as appropriate.</p> <p>Queensland continues to undertake audits and respond to incidents of non-compliance in accordance with the Rules for the Operations of the ICA Scheme. Queensland dealt with two minor incidents reported by Victoria and South Australia in the 2020-21 reporting period.</p> <p>NSW investigated one non-compliance that was determined to be a clerical error.</p>		
Implement improvements to methyl bromide fumigation processes.	Agriculture Victoria & DPIWPE / PHC	June 2021
<p>Tasmania, Victoria and South Australia have been reviewing ICA-04 operating procedures in collaboration with other states and territories to improve the procedure and better align components with national arrangements.</p> <p>Feedback on the national ICA-04 protocol was received from Commonwealth and state biosecurity agencies via the SDQMA and proposed revisions were tabulated for endorsement early January 2021 and adoption within the revised ICA-04 protocol late January – early February.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to Tasmanian Import requirements (i.e., IR2) are made as required to maintain currency and efficiency in treatment operations for fruit fly via MeBr fumigation. 		



- **Agriculture Victoria** (and other states) are regularly consulted on the effective operation of treatment facilities as registered via ICA04 protocol and IR2. Pre-treatment inspections of high-risk fruit fly host commodities have been introduced and are modified according to seasonal changes on the level of fruit fly infestation in each commodity.

South Australia supported by subject matter experts within DAWE audited the ICA04 procedure in Victoria and recommendations from this audit will see the domestic ICA04 protocol amended to better align with DAWE's Methodology for the treatment of MeBr fumigation.

Explore the strategic and technical application of irradiation as a fresh produce fruit fly treatment at the Phytosanitary Irradiation Chapman Forum.

Steritech

TBC. Delayed

The 2020 Chapman Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum was delayed and then cancelled due to COVID. Ongoing efforts for this international event will be branded as Phytosanitary Irradiation Platform (PsIP) resourced by International Irradiation Association (IIA). The first PsIP branded event will be held in conjunction with the well-established International Meeting on Radiation Processing (IMRP) late 2022 in Bangkok. Steritech has been confirmed as the lead for the committee creating the PsIP event agenda and will continue to promote the strategic and technical application of phytosanitary irradiation through this platform.

DAWE hosted a webinar with approximately 100 NPPO representatives from ASEAN member countries in which Steritech participated, sharing educational material on the technical and commercial benefits of irradiation for international trade. Steritech has continued to be active in domestic and trans-Tasman travel, pursuing development opportunities through one-on-one organisation type meetings and educational presentations even with travel restrictions. These efforts have focused on all major stakeholder groups including government, researchers and industry.

The Ag Research Victoria led a submission for HIA RFP AM19002 is now in the final stages of contracting. This effort remains on schedule and incorporates contributions from NSW DPI, PIRSA, Steritech, Ariel, IIA, PsIP and several other organisations. AM19002 will be Australia's first broad effort in irradiation development spanning all crops and regions and has strategically incorporated a number of Australia's trading partners.

Support development of alternative market access approaches (e.g., Areas of Low Pest Prevalence, winter windows, system approach, climate models) to underpin trade negotiations for fruit flies.

DAWE / PHC & Industry

Ongoing

Work is continuing on a systems approach research project.

Tasmania and South Australia are actively participating in national work examining systems approaches for their applications. Data supporting the development of a new domestic trade protocol based on a systems approach for Medfly has been collated following its trial during the 2020/21 South Australian cherry season. This data will be used to again assess the potential for this trial to be implemented on a limited basis across the domestic trading system during 2021/22.

NATIONAL FRUIT FLY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Delivery
Monitor issues arising in domestic and international trade and provide strategic advice to stakeholders and decision-makers for resolution.	Ongoing

The **Council** has undertaken several initiatives to raise awareness of issues impacting domestic and international trade. The initiatives include:

- An out of session paper submitted to PHC and NBC to articulate the significance of the fruit fly outbreaks in SA and WA and emphasise the importance of the East-West distribution profile. NBC acknowledged the value of the profile and supported the development of a business case for a sustainable investment model.
- A workshop was held with PHC to discuss preparedness for domestic market access arrangements that would be applied if a Medfly outbreak occurred in a Medfly free area. Several preparedness 'gaps' were



identified along with recommended activities to address those gaps. PHC considered these gaps in March and agreed to form a working group to progress these activities.

- Following an invite from DAWE, **PIRSA** participated in bilateral discussions with Chile and Argentina to better understand the use of Exclusionary SIT in a PFA environment.
- In April, **DPIRD** submitted a paper to the NBC on cost-sharing.

Regional Workshops: Provide an overview of current national activities influencing international and national market access and seek feedback on regional issues affecting market access.

June 2021

With the inability to hold face-to-face workshops, as a result of COVID-19, the Council commenced a series of webinars to raise awareness of current national fruit fly activities relevant to national and international trade. To date, four webinars have been held including the Research Program for Strengthening Australia's Fruit Fly System; the Sterile Insect Technique for Mediterranean Fruit Fly and Queensland Fruit Fly; Phytosanitary Irradiation; and the Interstate Certification Assurance Scheme. For more information on the webinars, visit the [Prevent Fruit Fly website](#).

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES COMPLETED FOR 2020/2021

Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Revised and re-issued the ICA Operational Procedure Pre-harvest field control and inspection of strawberries [ICA-34]. Amendments to the procedure included changes to pre-harvest cover spray options to align with currently approved APVMA permits and labels, updated it to the procedure template, and made a number of other amendments and minor corrections.	QDAF	Completed
Eradication of Qfly from Western Australia following the detection of Qfly in Dalkeith, Nedlands and surrounding areas and Coolbellup.	DPIRD	Completed
Significant activities in the South Australia metropolitan area and the SA Riverland to eradicate outbreaks of Medfly and Qfly. This work has included seeking new and/or updated permit from the APVMA to apply new baits and treatments to help with the eradication efforts.	PIRSA	Ongoing



PRIORITY AREA 2- MANAGEMENT OF ESTABLISHED FRUIT FLY

KEY STAKEHOLDER ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Identify and promote best-practice in-field control based on current and emerging research and consistent with protocol requirements.	Industry / Researchers & Hort Innovation	Ongoing
<p><i>ST16009 (RapidAIM smart traps) concluded a second-phase project looking at smart trap performance. Additionally, RapidAIM smart traps are being used in several production areas to support early detection of Qfly, reduce labour requirements and identify areas that may be overwintering harbourages for Qfly.</i></p> <p><i>Season 2 of pilot Qfly SIT releases are being analysed. Notably, the project team have trialled releasing flies fortnightly rather than weekly which, if successful, would significantly reduce the costs associated with SIT releases.</i></p> <p><i>TG19001 (trapping efficacy in table grape vineyards for Qfly AWM) started mass trapping, including assessing a modified synthetic lure female trap, and will use RapidAIM smart traps to assess Qfly movement within vineyards in the next season.</i></p> <p><i>MT19003 (parasitoids for the management of tephritid fruit flies in Australia) have identified three endemic parasitoids (native: <i>Diachasmimorpha kraussii</i> & <i>D. tryoni</i>, and the introduced <i>Fopius arisanus</i>) that have suitable distributions and host ranges that make them suitable for examination as biological controls for Qfly.</i></p> <p><i>South Australia has done significant work with growers, packers and Distribution Centres within outbreak and suspension areas to ensure fruit handling is consistent with interstate / export trade arrangements.</i></p> <p><i>The national Lure & Bait Technology for Fruit Fly Management working group, as part of the Smart Fruit Fly Management Measure met in February to discuss improved options for lures, baits and toxicants that will be available for use in the next year or so, that could be used for fruit fly outbreaks in Australia.</i></p>		
Report to stakeholders on the findings of the ABARES economic and technical feasibility analysis for eradication of Medfly from Australia and seek feedback.	DAWE / NFFC	End 2020
<p><i>The beneficiary analysis component is complete and a presentation to the National Biosecurity Committee (NBC) occurred on 30 June 2021 and one to the National Fruit Fly Council on 2 July 2021. Work has commenced on the technical feasibility component of this work. Several state government departments have provided ABARES with response data to assist with this work.</i></p>		
Undertake a benefit-cost analysis of Qfly SIT (using ABARES) and report to SITplus and the NFFC.	Hort Innovation	September 2020
<p><i>HA19010: Qfly SIT scenarios and Benefit-Cost Analysis nearing completion, with a draft report tabled in June 2021. Initial scoping data was contributed by stakeholders to inform a progress meeting with SITplus Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC).</i></p>		
Facilitate stakeholder consideration of future direction and commercial opportunities for SIT in fruit fly management.	Hort Innovation (SITPlus Program)	September 2020
<p><i>The SITplus SAC have developed three scenarios for the future direction of SITplus. There have also been ongoing national and regional discussions on the use of SIT, including a workshop in July 2021 on the draft SIT Policy hosted by the NFFC in collaboration with the Australian government.</i></p>		
Implement area wide management practices and promote adoption of related social and technical research to improve outcomes.	Regions / Hort Innovation, States & Territories	Ongoing



In **Victoria** Area wide management (AWM) has been established in the three key horticulture regions of Greater Sunraysia, Goulburn Murray and Yarra Valley and will continue under Victoria's Fruit Fly Strategy 2021-2025. Regional Governance Groups and Regional Coordinators will continue to lead AWM programs through government-funded grants. AWM includes monitoring for Qfly throughout horticultural regions, building awareness of hot spots and their management, removal of unmanaged host trees, community awareness programs advising about how to manage fruit fly in home gardens and community updates in regional media. Under the Strategy a key focus of the next four years will be to further ensure community buy-in, industry leadership and investigate alternative sustainable funding models post June 2025.

SIT research in the Hillston/Cobram district will provide valuable management aids for **Victorian and New South Wales** production areas.

South Australia's Riverland Fruit Fly Coordinator assists in implementing AWM with a focus on preparedness. Several community group meetings have been held to improve awareness and response.

Adoption of RapidAIM smart Qfly traps in several production areas is contributing to reduced labour requirements for trap checking, altering cultural practices (e.g., timing of pesticide application) by understanding fly population dynamics (e.g., diurnal movements, overwintering) and awareness of Qfly harbourages in urban and peri-urban areas and migration of Qfly between these areas and orchards.

NATIONAL FRUIT FLY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Delivery
Provide advice to decision-makers on the ABARES Medfly eradication analysis and the future of SIT.	March 2021
<p>An out of session NFFC meeting was held on 2nd July, 2021 to brief the council on progress, outcomes and next steps against the Medfly SIT CBA and beneficiaries analysis by AgEconPlus and the Medfly eradication CBA by ABARES. Relevant stakeholders provided ABARES with response data to assist with this work and commented on a discussion paper. The Western Australia agriculture minister and industry are aware that the ABARES report is due in 2021.</p>	
<p>Communications: identify and promote roles and responsibilities and information channels for sharing fruit fly management information.</p>	Completed
<p>The Council Communications Strategy, Content Calendar and Schedule guide the communications and media engagement activities for the Council. These documents outline the roles and responsibilities and appropriate channels for sharing fruit fly information with stakeholders.</p>	
<p>Communications: promote effective in-field management practices for Qfly and Medfly; and priorities for future improvements (e.g., chemicals) through industry articles and e-newsletters.</p>	June 2021
<p>The Council commissioned communications provider Agcommunicators to develop a number of fruit fly articles. These articles include information on Management, Trapping, Chemicals, Mediterranean fruit fly and Fruit fly facts. The release of these articles will commence in the second half of 2021. The Council also actively monitors the media for information on in-field management practices for Qfly and Medfly to promote in the monthly Prevent Fruit Fly e-newsletter.</p>	
<p>Communications: promote urban and peri-urban fruit fly management and area-wide practices through industry articles, and e-newsletters.</p>	Ongoing
<p>The Council actively monitors the media for information on urban and peri-urban fruit fly management and area-wide practices to promote through the monthly Prevent Fruit Fly e-newsletter. The Council has also commenced work to update the Prevent Fruit Fly website and will incorporate information such as the AWM work from Hort Innovation on the site.</p>	



Fruit Fly Symposium: include information on current and emerging research outcomes for in-field fruit fly management; and priorities for future improvements.	June 2021
<p><i>The 2021 National Fruit Fly Symposium was held as an online event on 4-6 May 2021 and attracted over 400 registrants. The event was designed to progress discussion on critical fruit fly issues and to identify priorities for building future national success. The comprehensive program covered the following themes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day One: Introduction and Overview of Fruit Fly in Australia • Day Two: Fruit Fly and Trade • Day Three: Fruit Fly and Production 	
<p><i>Regional Workshops: determine needs and provide regional-specific information on research outcomes for in-field fruit fly management and seek feedback on research gaps. Look at alternative ways of delivering information given COVID-19 restrictions.</i></p>	June 2021
<p><i>Over a dozen workshops were held with growers across Australia to learn about 'on-the-ground' fruit fly challenges and priority areas for fruit fly management. Refer to further information provided in priority area 1.</i></p>	

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES COMPLETED FOR 2020-2021		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Victoria's Fruit Fly Strategy has been endorsed and \$6.4 million has been announced for area-wide management programs for 2021-2025.	Agriculture Victoria	Completed
East-West Distribution Profile workshops	DAWE/NFFC	Completed
<p>A series of workshops were held with commodity groups during August 2020 to understand the potential export trade implications of the east-west fruit fly distribution profile. These workshops focused on the suitability of current treatment schedules and protocols to support continued trade in the event of a potential change in Medfly and/or Qfly distribution.</p>		
Ongoing management of established fruit fly, e.g., Queensland fruit fly	NSW DPI / Affected industries	Ongoing
<p>NSW DPI provided representatives to the Sunraysia industry fruit fly management committee meetings. 1 meeting has been held. A fruit fly management update was provided at an LLS/DPI event for growers and backyarders at Euston.</p>		



PRIORITY AREA 3 - PREVENTION, PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

KEY STAKEHOLDER ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Engage with stakeholders on pest prioritisation of exotic fruit flies.	PHA / DAWE	Ongoing
<i>Stakeholders were engaged as part of the 2019 development of the National Priority Plan Pests on the prioritisation of exotic fruit flies.</i>		
Communicate potential or identified areas of risk of exotic fly incursion.	DAWE	Ongoing
<i>Exotic fruit fly is #4 on the National Priority Plant Pests (2019) the risk of exotic fruit fly is published in the fact sheet on the DAWE exotic fruit fly website. NAQS has published a list of target exotic fruit fly species</i>		
Implement incursion and eradication procedures in pest free areas accordance with the National Fruit Fly Management Protocols.	States & Territories / DAWE, Industry	As needs basis
<p>DAWE continues to provide advice on an 'as needs' basis to jurisdictions eradication programs in alignment with the Protocols and international standards. It is the aim of the Protocols to eliminate this need by clarifying ambiguities and policy requirements.</p> <p>In South Australia, an extensive eradication program was undertaken for 11 outbreaks of Medfly (10 in metro Adelaide and one in Pt Augusta) and six outbreaks of Qfly (five in the SA Riverland and one in metro Adelaide). Outbreaks are due for quarantine release in December 2021.</p> <p>NSW procedures are being updated to reflect developments with the new Fruit Fly Code of Practice. Operating procedures are updated in line with recommendations from AFFTAC.</p> <p>In Victoria, policies and procedures are updated to reflect any changes to fruit fly status and the National Management Protocols.</p>		
Implement incursion and eradication procedures for exotic incursions.	States & Territories / PHA, DAWE, Industry	As needs basis
<p><i>Implementation of incursion and eradication procedures for exotic incursions continue to be undertaken under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) and PLANTPLAN as required</i></p> <p>Victoria is working with New South Wales on a cross border Medfly preparedness scenario and activity to ensure both jurisdictions are prepared and have arrangement in place for any Medfly detection.</p> <p><i>As part of the nationally cost-shared Exotic Fruit Fly in the Torres Straits Response program, NAQS and QDAF continued successfully eradicating of incursions of Oriental fruit fly and New Guinea fly in the Torres Straits. Management of exotic incursions are covered by the updated Operational procedures.</i></p>		
Initiate a project for biosecurity preparedness for exotic fruit flies.	Hort Innovation	December 2020
<i>Contract executed for FF18001 – Preparedness for oriental fruit fly and exotic flies, in June 2021. NSW DPI were the successful tender for the project.</i>		



Administer the Exotic Fruit Fly in Torres Strait Response Plan to eradicate incursions of exotic fruit fly species from Torres Strait in response to detections from NAQS surveillance.	QDAF / DAWE, PHA	June 2021
<p><i>The Queensland Government, Federal Government, other state and territory governments, and affected plant industry peak bodies have continued to collaborate on the implementation of an annual, proactive program to eradicate exotic fruit flies from Torres Strait.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The program combines routine early detection surveillance and response activities to prevent the entry and establishment of several economically damaging exotic fruit fly species on the Australian mainland. Methods used are: male annihilation (baits targeting male fruit flies); bait spraying on affected Torres Strait islands; increased communication within Torres Strait and Cape York communities; highlighting risks associated with exotic fruit flies, movement restrictions in Torres Strait and Cape York Peninsula; and monitoring aircraft and boats between Torres Strait and the mainland.</i> <i>Over 250 exotic fruit flies have been detected this financial year.</i> <i>An efficiency audit of the implementation of the response plan was completed in March 2021.</i> <i>QDAF engaged the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) Indigenous ranger program to ensure that eradication activities could continue in the Torres Strait while COVID-19 travel restrictions were in effect. The partnership arrangement with TSRA was so successful that Biosecurity Queensland is continuing to work with them to deliver aspects of the Response Plan. This creates significant efficiencies and boosts community participation and understanding of the response effort.</i> 		
Revise the Torres Strait Response Plan and submit to stakeholders for consideration for support beyond June 2021.	QDAF / DAWE, PHA	End 2020
<p><i>DAF has developed a new Response Plan for the period 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2026. The plan follows the same eradication methodology that has been in effect in Torres Strait since 1996. Recommendations of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) as well as the outcomes of a program efficiency audit completed in March 2021, have been incorporated in the new Response Plan. The Response Plan has been endorsed by the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP) and considered by the National Management Group (NMG) in-session on 28 June 2021.</i></p>		
Monitor and address non-compliance and/or failures associated with domestic trade regulations.	PHC SDQMA	Ongoing
<p><i>South Australia continues to work through SDQMA and DCSG in reviewing ICA protocols and bilateral agreements.</i></p>		
Deliver fruit fly control responsibilities in the areas of Victoria adjacent to the Riverland Pest Free Area.	Agriculture Victoria / PIRSA	Ongoing
<p><i>Delivery of fruit fly control responsibilities in the areas of Victoria adjacent to the Riverland Pest Free Area continues.</i></p>		
Formalise a national SIT policy for consistent application of this technology.	DAWE / PHC	End 2020
<p><i>The draft Policy for fruit fly sterile insect technique in relation to trade was released for public consultation from 15 December 2020 until 28 March 2021. DAWE received a range of comments during the public consultation period and the draft policy will be refined based on feedback received. A SIT Policy Workshop was held with stakeholders on 12 July 2021.</i></p>		



Resolve transitional support for the existing WA Medfly SIT facility and cost-benefit / beneficiary analyses to identify future funding contributions.	DPIRD and PIRSA / PHC	End 2020
<i>Additional interim funding agreed until December 2021. Western Australia prepared a paper on further funding of the facility (2021/22) to NBC. Funding was obtained for a further 6 months.</i>		
NATIONAL FRUIT FLY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Delivery	
Investigate the role of maintaining an East-West distribution profile in Australia and its supporting factors (e.g., Qfly and Medfly SIT etc.)	March 2021	
<i>Refer to information provided in Priority Area 1.</i>		
<i>Communications: raise awareness of high-risk exotic species and associated processes to contain/report and promote compliance with trade protocols and regulations.</i>	Ongoing	
<i>Each month in the Prevent Fruit Fly e-newsletter, an exotic fruit fly species is featured. In the reporting June 2020 - June 2021 period, the following species were featured: Olive fruit fly, Solanum fruit fly, Peach fruit fly, Cherry fruit fly, Dacus longicornis, Bactrocera trivialis, Vanuatu fruit fly, Natal fruit fly, Pacific fruit fly etc.</i>		
<i>Regional Workshops: support and promote preparedness planning for fruit fly outbreak in pest free areas. Look at alternative ways of delivering information given COVID-19 restrictions.</i>	June 2021	
<i>Refer to information provided in Priority Area 1. During the month of August, a subset of Council had a virtual meeting with the Tasmania Industry Collaboration Manager; the Fruit Growers Tasmania CEO; the Fruit Growers Tasmania Industry Development Officer; and Fruit Growers Tasmania Policy & Engagement Officer to discuss how the Council could assist with the development and/or launch of Tasmania's Incursion Response Manual. The manual is intended to assist Tasmania growers with activities to prepare themselves and their businesses should there be an incursion of fruit fly in Tasmania.</i> <i>Largely in response to risk associated with the numerous outbreak responses which are currently being managed, numerous preparedness workshops have been held to support growers in the South Australian Riverland and on the fringes of existing metro / Pt Augusta outbreak response areas.</i>		
<i>Fruit Fly Symposium: include information on current and emerging priorities for fruit fly prevention, preparedness and response.</i>	June 2021	
<i>Refer to information provided in Priority Area 2.</i>		
<i>Review incursion contingency planning for high-risk exotic fruit flies, including status of industry planning and compatibility with EPPRD.</i>	June 2021	
<i>The Council manager provided advice on the development of project proposal for Hort Innovation on exotic fruit flies, including a component proposing a simulation exercise for business continuity during an outbreak of Oriental fruit fly.</i>		



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES COMPLETED FOR 2020-2021		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Agriculture Victoria has produced a Medfly preparedness plan to document our response approach in the event of a detection of Medfly in Victoria. The preparedness plan aligns with the National Fruit Fly Management Protocols.	Agriculture Victoria	Completed
Trapping grid	State governments	Ongoing
A review of Victoria's fruit fly trapping network is underway. The review will seek to ensure that network is designed through a risk-based approach. A review of the trapping grids in Sunraysia and the MIA are underway.		



PRIORITY AREA 4- RESEARCH

KEY STAKEHOLDER ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Coordinate the Research Program under the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) on Strengthening Australia's Fruit Fly Management System.	DAWE	June 2022
<p>DAWE has commissioned six projects under the Research Program. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phenology, demography and distribution of Australia's fruit flies • A national biocontrol program to manage pest fruit flies in Australia • Efficacy data to support methyl bromide disinfestation treatments against fruit flies, • Developing biologically based control of Medfly for area wide management and eradication • Investigating the effect of packaging and pallet specification on methyl bromide fumigation • Cost-benefit and beneficiary analysis of the Medfly SIT Facility in Western Australia. <p>All projects are on track and meeting their milestones. Funding for the Research Program is fully subscribed.</p>		
Monitor research on Phenology demography and distribution of Australia's fruit fly.	PHC	June 2022
<p>To date completed outputs include: A host list review (Activity 3); 13 new Standard Operating Procedures, including Operational procedure for mass molecular markers and Laboratory protocols for LAMP; repository of field phenology data (Activity 5) etc.</p> <p>Outputs under development include: Literature review – Diapause physiology; Literature review – Host preference and suitability; Literature review – Fly competition; Analysis of field phenology data etc.</p> <p>Trials are well underway to inform the development of the remaining agreed outputs: Life table data sets for target species; Life history data sets for each species; Host use data set of laboratory reared flies; Review of ISPM37 assumptions; Phenological data set for lesser flies; Physiological data set for <i>B. tryoni</i>; Day degree models for target species; Review/report of host availability for <i>B. jarvisi</i>; Bioclimatic distribution map for each species etc.</p>		
Monitor research on Methyl bromide disinfestation treatments against fruit fly.	PHC	June 2022
<p>There have been delays in sourcing MeBr standards from the United States but the team has developed a priority list of commodities for efficacy testing and trials have commenced. The team used a risk matrix to prioritise commodities based on using information drawn from the volume of commodity traded, commodity exposure and susceptibility to fruit fly in the field and the availability of alternative fumigation schedules and/or efficacy data.</p>		
Monitor research on A national biocontrol program to manage pest fruit flies.	PHC	June 2022
<p>Release of parasitoids is commencing during March 2021.</p>		
Monitor research on Systems approaches for horticultural market access.	PHC	June 2021
<p>To be advised.</p>		



Delivery of the SITPlus Program research projects (funded under Hort Frontiers Strategic Partnership).	Hort Innovation	June 2022
<p><i>Factory and release pilot projects on track. Investigating ways to reduce costs of releases by trialling fortnightly releases rather than weekly. Macquarie University project has finished with excellent research outcomes, including many research papers and a number of Ph.D. candidates graduating, with some submitted and waiting assessment.</i></p> <p><i>NIR project has produced good results for Phase 1 – the NIR technology can detect fly pupa sex with a high degree of accuracy, and a NIR-capable sorting machine has been identified for Phase 2, with work underway by the project team to source the funding required to purchase it. Breeding program has continued to refine and stabilise the colour variants.</i></p>		
Host a fruit fly research exchange forum (8 th Australian Biology of Tephritid Fruit Flies Conference)	Researchers / QUT, QDAF	TBA 2022
<p><i>This event has been postponed until 2022.</i></p>		
NATIONAL FRUIT FLY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Delivery	
Monitor progress and provide advice to government decision-makers on research gaps and project proposals under the IGA Research Program.	Ongoing	
<p><i>All projects for the research program have been commissioned. Refer to activity “Coordinate the Research Program under the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) on Strengthening Australia’s Fruit Fly Management System” under Priority Area 4.</i></p> <p>South Australia continues to seek funding opportunities for pathway molecular analysis research to better understand incursions.</p>		
Increase information sharing between the Council, research funders and research providers to assist in identification and prioritisation of research through regular engagement at meetings and field visits.	Ongoing	
<p><i>Representatives from research funder, Hort Innovation, are members on the Council. This representation facilitates information sharing to assist with the identification and prioritisation of fruit fly research needs.</i></p> <p><i>The 2021 National Fruit Fly Symposium included discussion on research needs, identifying gaps in capability and better coordination of on-the-ground needs and research outcomes.</i></p>		
Run a workshop with industry and other stakeholders to identify priority areas for improving the fruit fly management system and associated research gaps.	June 2021	
<p><i>The NFFC identified a list of priorities areas to strengthen the national fruit fly system at its meeting in June 2021. These priorities will be confirmed with other stakeholders and will form the basis of discussion with research providers in a workshop during the second half of 2021.</i></p>		
Fruit Fly Symposium: identify current research needs and potential ‘blue sky’ research as outcomes of the Symposium.	June 2021	
<p><i>Refer to information provided in Priority Area 2.</i></p>		



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES COMPLETED FOR 2020-2021		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Fruit Fly Chemical Ecology Online Workshop	ARC Centre for Fruit Fly Biosecurity Innovation/ NSW DPI (Research Attraction and Acceleration Program- RAAP)	Completed
<p><i>In June 2020 (4th-25th) the ARC Centre for Fruit Fly Biosecurity Innovation hosted the "Fruit Fly Chemical Ecology Online Workshop". The event was supported by the Research Attraction and Acceleration Program (RAAP) of the NSW Department of Industry. In the event sessions, world experts in the field of Chemical Ecology showcased the latest technologies and findings of this field using fruit flies as model insect species. An introduction to the field of Chemical Ecology was followed by olfaction and electrophysiology, lure development and applications, and the fascinating field of Chemical Ecology of insect-plant interactions concluding the event.</i></p> <p><i>As a follow-up, the ARC organised a second online event, the "Fruit Fly Chemical Ecology - Online roundtable discussions", also supported by RAAP. This event was dedicated to the participants of the previous workshop only and ran between the 27th of July and the 3rd of August 2020. Throughout the event sessions, the speakers of the recently concluded workshop returned for a series of small group discussions around selected topics that were linked to their presentations.</i></p> <p><i>The great success of these events supported the organisation of more online events, including the launch of a virtual seminar series in October 2020. Every month, world-leading experts are invited to present the latest findings in fruit fly research. More than 100 people registered for the Fruit Fly Chemical Ecology Online Workshop sessions. About 130 people registered for the first Fruit Fly ITTC online seminar, and about 110 people registered for the second seminar. The average attendance among registrants was 70%.</i></p>		



PRIORITY AREA 5- SURVEILLANCE

KEY STAKEHOLDER ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Undertake surveillance of high-risk pathways for exotic fruit flies, including ports of entry surveillance conducted by States and Territories and the Torres Strait surveillance conducted by NAQS.	DAWE / States & Territories	Ongoing
<p><i>The Port of Entry Fruit Fly Trapping Program under the National Plant Health Surveillance Program (NPHSP) has been progressed for 2020-21 targeting exotic fruit fly species entering through major import pathways. The program is delivered by state and territory jurisdictions and funded by the Commonwealth. No exotics were reported during the June 20-June 21 period for any of the states. Data/information collated through these surveillance programs has been used for pest status determination and market access negotiations. An update on different states is as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tasmania undertakes surveillance for exotic fruit flies at Hobart and Hobart Airport using traps baited with methyl eugenol (in addition to the State-wide cue lure/capilure trap network). Methyl eugenol traps will be relocated to Launceston and Devonport for the 2021-2022 season to expand the coverage of this surveillance to all three of Tasmania’s largest ports of entry. • Victoria’s Exotic Fruit Fly network is the largest in the country. Fruit Fly surveillance under the NPHSP in areas surrounding international pathways enables early detection of exotic species, enabling effective eradication before they become established in production areas. The targeted areas under the NPHSP are not covered under the Pest Free Area fruit fly surveillance programs, therefore information collated through this program provides additional confidence for fruit fly area freedom to support trade and market access. • South Australia has maintained trapping network for exotic fruit flies in metropolitan Adelaide – under agreement with the Commonwealth Government. • Queensland has continued with ongoing monitoring for exotic fruit fly throughout the state. Biosecurity Queensland maintains a trapping array at high-risk locations targeting lure-responsive exotic fruit fly species. Cuelure, Capilure® and methyl eugenol lure baited traps are used. Trapping is conducted at 103 high risk sites. • In NSW, trap monitoring for exotic fruit flies is continuing in all areas. All areas of NSW have recorded high numbers of Qfly in this season. Traps in place around Guyra tomato exchange have captured a number of <i>B. bryoniae</i> while traps in the Sydney basin have recorded <i>B. jarvisi</i> while these are known in Northern and coastal areas and are not of concern for market access flies. • Western Australia undertakes ongoing monitoring for exotic fruit fly throughout the state. A trapping array at high-risk locations targets lure-responsive exotic fruit fly species. Cuelure, Capilure® and methyl eugenol lure baited traps are used. 		
Implement domestic trapping consistent with the National Fruit Fly Management Protocols/pest freedom requirements.	PHC / DAWE	Ongoing
<p><i>A review of the exotic fruit fly surveillance design and methodology has been completed in collaboration with the Subcommittee on National Plant Health Surveillance. The aim of the project was to improve the efficiency and effectivity of fruit fly surveillance with outcomes resulting in readjustment of the trapping grid to place fruit fly traps in high-risk locations which are conducive for early establishment of invading fruit flies if entering through import pathways. Early detection of fruit fly species at these high-risk locations will enable effective eradication before they spread and become established in production areas. Trapping network in metro Adelaide, the SA Riverland and other regional sites was maintained.</i></p>		



Incorporate all state and territory government fruit fly trapping data into a single system (AUSPestCheck).	States & Territories	Ongoing
<p><i>All states routinely upload their fruit fly trapping data to AUSPestCheck (APC) and provide data to DAWE.</i></p> <p>South Australia and Western Australia surveillance events are being reported to DAWE using manual reports, but in SA all staff are using Trapbase to electronically record trap visits. This will allow direct upload of data into AUSPestCheck but will require streamlining of data requirements from DAWE to prevent duplicate reports being generated in different formats. Trapbase is currently being trialled for use in Perth metropolitan area.</p> <p>Victoria is a member of a working group to test the inclusion of the 2020-21 NPHSP data into AUSPestCheck™. The system will go live in July and moving forward, the exotic fruit fly data collected under NPHSP will be fed into APC.</p>		
Determine potential opportunities for general surveillance and citizen science in fruit fly management.	PHC / Regions, NFFC	Ongoing
<p><i>Management of Fruit Fly has been promoted through social media by the Urban Plant Health Network as well as urban biosecurity presentations at community gardens in collation with AUSVEG, AVR and regional fruit fly coordinators.</i></p> <p><i>The Southwest Passive fruit fly surveillance program encourages residents in that region to send in potential suspect specimens for identification.</i></p>		
NATIONAL FRUIT FLY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Delivery	
Monitor State reports of fruit fly distribution/detections.	Ongoing	
<p><i>Council members provide quarterly updates on projects, initiatives or challenges that are of interest to the Council. As part of this update, Council provides a Seasonal fruit fly activity update. In addition to this update, the Council actively monitors the media to pick up any information on fruit fly detections and outbreaks across the country.</i></p>		
Investigate recent information on trap techniques and their efficiency and effectiveness.	December 2020	
<p><i>Information has been gathered from researchers and consultants on trapping improvements. This will form the basis of recommendations to key decision makers in 2021-22.</i></p> <p>South Australia has commenced a trial into various fruit fly baits and lures to help inform outbreak response activities.</p>		
Become informed about trends in digital surveillance and associated AI technology	June 2021	
<p><i>Council members involved in digital trapping trials have updated Council on outcomes and provided positive feedback on its application.</i></p> <p>DPIRD has completed a trial using three types of digital traps in Carnarvon. The trial was inconclusive, with further trials planned for 2021/22.</p>		
Communications: develop industry article on best-practice trapping for different fruit fly scenarios and emerging trends and potential improvements for trapping.	June 2021	
<p><i>As part of the AgCommunicators work, an article on Fruit Fly Trapping was developed. This article provides practical information on trapping for surveillance and trapping for control, with an emphasis on the control aspect. The article also explores the latest developments in trapping (e.g., digital traps) and areas for improvement (e.g., new lures or insecticides, female traps).</i></p>		



PRIORITY AREA 6- DIAGNOSTICS

KEY STAKEHOLDER ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Promote the use of the Fruit Fly ID Australia website and <i>Australian Handbook for the Identification of Fruit Flies</i> .	PHC / DAWE	Ongoing
<i>To be advised.</i>		
Incorporate a national diagnostic standard for Sterile Insect Technique fruit flies in the National Management Protocols.	DAWE / PHC	June 2021
<i>Awaiting draft national diagnostic standard for SIT flies to be submitted to AFFTAC for agreement.</i>		
Across all disciplines: Expand the National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostic Network (NPBDN) to be the central point for all activities within the national plant biosecurity diagnostics system.	PHC / SPHD	Ongoing
<i>The NPBDN currently has 547 members from 40 different organisations across Australia and South East Asia. Efforts to expand the network will continue with a focus on increased membership of colleagues in the Pacific region. During May- October 2020 6-month period the NPBDN website hosted 2,520 sessions by members.</i>		
Across all disciplines: Provide a career pathway for diagnosticians, including through the National Professional Development Program.	PHC / SPHD	Ongoing
<i>The ninth Australian diagnosticians' workshop (ADW2021) will be held later in 2021 (Aug-Sept) to enable a face-to-face meeting. The Miridae and Lygaeoidea identification workshop originally scheduled for June 2020 remains postponed due to COVID-19. Virtual workshops have been planned for the coming months covering topics such as communication for diagnosticians and surveillance staff, introduction to entomology, molecular tool training and caterpillar larvae identification.</i>		
Across all disciplines: Establish an expert group to develop and maintain a record of emerging plant pests that pose a potential threat to plant health in Australia.	PHC / SPHD	Ongoing
<i>Work continues through SPHD to deliver outcomes of the National Reference Collections Strategy. Plant Health Australia have established a steering committee to revive the Australian Plant Pest Database (APPD). Together these two activities will improve the transparent access to pest records in Australia for all jurisdictions.</i>		
Across all disciplines: Identify, monitor and improve the scope and role of individual collections to support trade, biosecurity, and the national plant diagnostic system.	PHC / SPHD	Ongoing
<i>A DAWE funded cost benefit analysis of the Australian reference collections determined that the net benefit of the reference Collections to Australian Biosecurity was in the order of \$524 million over a 30-year period. A recent review of the diagnostic coverage of the 42 NPPPs in reference collections in Australia determined that 32 of the 42 NPPPs have sufficient coverage of specimens and capability in Australia to complete a diagnosis. Nine of the remaining 10 NPPPs had poor coverage of specimens. Banana phytoplasmas was the only NPPP to have no coverage of specimens.</i>		



<p><i>Across all disciplines:</i> Develop mechanisms to improve the capture of data from various sources including diagnostics, surveillance, collections, research and area freedom activities.</p>	<p>PHC / SPHD</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><i>A number of generic activities within in SPHD aim to improve the capture of diagnostic data and the presence/absence records of pest and disease detection in Australia including the revitalisation of APPD and expansion of NPBDN. Collaboration and linkages between SPHD and SNPHS also facilitate this process. However, these activities operate in minimal budget and to achieve step-change progress in this space will require appropriate resources. DPIRD uses AusPestCheck to provide data for which WA claims area of freedom.</i></p>		
<p><i>Across all disciplines:</i> Continue to verify the performance of diagnostic laboratories for identification of species of interest through appropriate quality management systems.</p>	<p>PHC / ANQAP</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><i>The Australian National Quality Assurance Program (ANQAP) have coordinated the National Plant Health Proficiency Testing Program (NPHPTP) since 2012. Usually run annually during August to October, round 9 has been unavoidably delayed due to Covid-19 related impacts. These impacts include ANQAP being unable to access their Victorian laboratory due to the Melbourne Covid lockdown.</i></p> <p><i>Similarly, Victorian scientists, the major specimen suppliers, were unable to access their laboratories. To address this, suppliers from other jurisdictions were engaged. Enrolments for Round 9 were sent out during December 2020 and specimens will be dispatched mid-January 2021. Round 10 is expected to be conducted in the second half of 2021. The Biosecurity Qld Fruit Fly Laboratory achieved NATA accreditation for diagnosis of exotic fruit fly in 2020. It has continued to improve laboratory quality management systems under this.</i></p>		



PRIORITY AREA 7- COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

KEY STAKEHOLDER ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Develop a Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Framework for delivery of the Smart Fruit Fly Management measure.	DAWE	Completed
<p><i>The internal Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Framework for the delivery of the Smart Fruit Fly Management measure has been finalised. The Framework is an internal document for the department, and it will form the basis for all communication on the measure and assist the department with internal departmental communication across divisions.</i></p>		
Keep stakeholders informed and engaged on Smart Fruit Fly Management measure activities and progress.	DAWE	Ongoing
<p><i>The Smart Fruit Fly Management measure update were provided to the Council, PHC, NBC, and the Minister's Office for information: January/February 2021 and March/April 2021. The May/June 2021 measure update report is currently being drafted and will be circulated to stakeholders in early July 2021.</i></p>		
Progress fruit fly opportunities under the Hort Innovation Extension and Adoption initiative.	Hort Innovation	Ongoing
<p><i>SITplus members participated in SIT webinar. Release pilot media release widely distributed.</i></p> <p><i>"Sterile fruit flies contribute to reduction in Queensland fruit fly population".</i></p> <p>The media stats for the media release of the above are as follows:</p> <p><i>34 pieces of coverage that will be reaching more than 1 million people.</i></p> <p><i>The 19 print and online articles include: Cobram Courier, Weekly Times, Food Magazine, National Tribune, Mirage News, Benella Ensign, The Corowa Free Press, Riverine Herald, Riverine Herald, Southern Riverina News, Yarrawonga Chronicle, Deniliquin Pastoral Times, Kyabram Free Press, Mclvor Times, The Seymour Telegraph, Shepparton News, Country News, Campaspe News, The Courier Cobram, Wet Tropic Times.</i></p> <p><i>Additionally, there have been 15 radio and TV broadcasts: ABC Tasmania airing 12 times; WIN TV having 2 segments and ABC Vic Country Hour segment.</i></p>		
Deliver fruit fly related community engagement work, including the Australian Interstate Quarantine website, respective state and territory websites and fruit fly communications campaigns.	States & Territories / Regions, PHA	Ongoing
<p><i>Industry stakeholders were invited this year to participate in Plant Biosecurity Management Group (fruit fly) meetings during the high-risk season (Oct-Mar). Tasmania maintains a Queensland fruit fly webpage which includes the host produce. Three fruit fly themed Biosecurity Advisories were emailed to all biosecurity stakeholders in Oct/Nov 2021:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Tasmania is Queensland fruit fly free- please help us keep it that way!</i> <i>2. Amendments to Import Requirement 2- Disinfestation with Methyl Bromide for fruit fly host produce.</i> <i>3. Be careful what you send to Tasmania in the mail.</i> <p><i>In Victoria, regionally specific action plans have been implemented which include updates on fruit fly monitoring, workshops for community groups, participation at farmer markets and community events, extensive social media and traditional media campaigns including in TV, radio and local newspapers. State-wide media releases and social media campaigns continue to be implemented, with the addition of a new Melbourne Metro and Fringe Suburbs Communication and Engagement Plan.</i></p> <p><i>South Australia commenced the "Restrictions are in place" marketing campaign in February 2021 to raise awareness of the restrictions in place due to fruit fly outbreaks in metro Adelaide and the Riverland. A new</i></p>		



website www.fruitfly.sa.gov.au was aligned with the campaign. SA continued with public information activities for the fruit fly outbreaks across metropolitan Adelaide and in the Riverland, sharing information with key stakeholders, local councils, multicultural community organisations, the Nursery and Gardening Association of SA, the SA Produce Market, horticulture and other retail industry bodies and representatives, sending information to residents within outbreak areas to help with the response, and be proactive in their gardens to help protect SA from fruit fly. An industry bulletin (emailed) and a regular column in the Riverland newspaper provide updates to targeted stakeholders.

Queensland maintains web pages about fruit fly on the [DAF website](#) which includes information on (Exotic fruit fly surveillance; Qfly; Restrictions on moving plant material, soil and related equipment into Queensland; Eradication, surveillance, and disease control programs; A-Z list of horticultural insect pests etc.) and [Business Queensland website](#) which includes information on (Oriental fruit fly, Mediterranean fruit fly, New Guinea fly and Melon fly).

[Qfly](#) management information has been updated on the **NSW DPI** plant biosecurity website. Any amendments to ICA Operating procedures are updated on the Australian Interstate Quarantine website and the DPI site and individually communicated to affected businesses. Local Land services (LLS) and NSW DPI have been involved with stakeholders in the Sunraysia PFA providing information on the continuation of trap monitoring and providing information for local fruit fly management activities.

Support regional fruit fly committees and area wide management groups	States & Territories / Industry	Ongoing
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\$6.4 million has been secured for fruit fly area wide management activities under **Victoria's** Fruit Fly Strategy 2021-2025. Regional implementation plans will be developed by the three Regional Governance Groups from the three key horticulture regions of Yarra Valley, Greater Sunraysia and Goulburn Murray Valley. The current grants program will be finalised July- September 2021.

SA maintains the Riverland Fruit Fly Committee and South Australian Fruit Fly Standing Committee.

NSW DPI is providing information to local industry groups in the MIA, Sunraysia Orange and Young areas to aid in fruit fly management, monitoring and development of market access arrangements. DPI has been carrying out compliance checks on neglected orchards in production areas.

Include social research outcomes in extension activities.	States & Territories / Hort Innovation	Ongoing
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The **Victorian** program was developed with an awareness of the social research undertaken by Heleen Kruger which outlined the importance of locally driven programs to implement Area-wide management programs.

Queensland posted the following posts on social media networks:

- "Exotic fruit fly trapping grid" was about the exotic fruit fly trapping grid.
- "Pick the pest" highlighted the differences between Qfly and Medfly.

Queensland continues to contribute to a number of education and awareness activities in relation to the pest significance of fruit fly and the biosecurity activities undertaken in the state for fruit fly.

Consultation with local industry has suggested backyard growers with neglected fruit trees pose a problem and **NSW DPI**/LLS in partnership with industry are developing a communications strategy aimed at this groups.

South Australia has undertaken significant social research into the update of communications material and used this to formulate updates to communication tools.



NATIONAL FRUIT FLY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES	
Activity	Delivery
<p><i>Communications:</i> extend information through the Prevent Fruit Fly website, twitter, e-newsletter, industry articles, Communique, Annual Summary etc.</p>	Ongoing
<p><i>During the reporting period June 20- June 21, 13 Prevent Fruit Fly (PFF) e-newsletters were distributed and articles were posted to the Prevent Fruit Fly website. 80 tweets were shared on the PFF Twitter account. Twitter followers increased from 272 to 293 followers (an increase of 7.7%) and e-newsletter subscribers increased from 396 to 490, an increase of 24%. The website had 54,406 page views and 30,213 users. This is a substantial increase over the same period last year, of 15,476 page views and 7688 users (an increase of 351% and 393% respectively).</i></p> <p><i>Two industry articles were developed by the Council, published on the various PFF platforms, and distributed to relevant industry magazines. The first article was to communicate the government notification process following a detection of fruit fly larvae in produce sold interstate following the concerns raised by the Australia Mango Industry Australia at Meeting 21 in March. The second article was about the exotic fruit fly eradication program in the Torres Strait.</i></p>	
<p><i>Fruit Fly Symposium and Regional Workshops:</i> provide information on current and emerging fruit fly issues and seek input on solutions and priorities. Look at alternative ways of delivering information given COVID-19 restrictions.</p>	June 2021
<p><i>Refer to Priority Area 2 for more information on the Symposium.</i></p>	
<p>Engage with peak industry bodies, grower groups and relevant international forums to help identify fruit fly issues and priorities across Australia.</p>	Ongoing
<p><i>The Council has undertaken multiple initiatives to engage with fruit fly stakeholders, including, inviting industry groups to Council meetings for an information exchange; initiating regional workshops in Bundaberg in March; commencing a series of webinars to raise awareness of national fruit fly activities; delivering industry workshops to discuss the importance of upholding the East-West distribution profile; delivering short workshops across Australia to learn about 'on-the-ground' fruit fly challenges and priorities. In addition to the above, industry stakeholders were invited to the Strategic Council meeting in March 2021 and Meeting 26 in June 2021. A wide spectrum of stakeholders also participated in the 2021 National Fruit Fly Symposium. The webinars continue to receive good industry participations.</i></p>	

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES COMPLETED FOR 2020-2021		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
<p>Queensland participated in the following NFFC stakeholder engagement activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berries Workshop: The east-west fruit fly distribution profile and export trade – 11 August 2020 • Managing Fruit Fly in Endemic Areas Webinar – 14 December 2020 • ICA Scheme Webinar – 16 December 2020 	QDAF	Completed



PRIORITY AREA 8- COOPERATION

KEY STAKEHOLDER ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
Coordinate fruit fly management within each State, including provision of information to stakeholders.	States & Territories / PHC	Ongoing
<p><i>Industry stakeholders have been invited this year to participate in Plant Biosecurity Management Group (fruit fly) meetings during the high-risk season (Oct-Mar). Fruit Growers Tasmania and the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association are now participating.</i></p> <p>Victoria continues its coordinated regional fruit fly management programs. Communication and engagement programs will be reviewed and continue to reach industry, government, and community stakeholders. Agriculture Victoria has also recently developed a Metro Melbourne and Fringe Suburbs Communication and Engagement Plan.</p> <p>Monthly SitReps, detection summary tables, Technical Advisory Group minutes and presentations, and annual reports for the Exotic Fruit Flies in Torres Strait Eradication Program are available to all Affected Government and Industry Parties via the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP) portal.</p> <p>An invitation is extended annually via the CCEPP for states and territories and Affected Industry Parties to attend the Technical Advisory Group meeting as observers. Also see 'Communication and Engagement' above.</p> <p>Resources have been updated and made available to the public on the NSW DPI website and via the LLS.</p>		
Uphold governance structures that serve to support fruit fly management, including Plant Health Committee, Australian Fruit Fly Technical Advisory Committee and the National Fruit Fly Council.	States & Territories, DAWE	Ongoing
<p><i>In the 2020-21 period: PHC met five times, NFFC met four times and held the National Fruit Fly Symposium in May 2021, AFFTAC met eight times and NBC met once.</i></p>		
Host a South Australian Fruit Fly Summit – currently delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions.	SA	TBA
<p><i>Fruit Fly Summit has been postponed.</i></p>		
NATIONAL FRUIT FLY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES		
Activity	Delivery	
Deliver a revised National Fruit Fly Strategy for 2020-25 and Implementation Plan for 2020-21.	Completed	
<p><i>The 2020-25 National Fruit Fly Strategy was officially launched in November 2020 at Meeting 24 of the Council. This followed endorsement of the Strategy by the Council, fruit fly affected industry members of PHA, PHC and NBC. The Strategy was also provided to the Agriculture Senior Officials Committee (AGSOC) and the Agriculture Ministers Forum (AGMIN).</i></p> <p><i>The Strategy and associated 2020-2021 Implementation Plan are available on the Prevent Fruit Fly website. The Council monitor progress against the Strategy and publishes annual progress reports.</i></p>		
Monitor and report on the implementation of the revised Strategy and associated Implementation Plan.	June 2021	
<p><i>The 2020-2021 National Fruit Fly Strategy Implementation Plan Annual Report was submitted to Meeting 26 of the Council in June 2021.</i></p>		
Develop a project proposal to progress consideration of sustainable funding for critical fruit fly management activities in Australia.	Completed	



<i>NBC acknowledged the sustainable funding project proposal developed by the Council and requested that the project be progressed although no funding was, or has been, committed to this project.</i>	
Increase engagement between regional groups, peak industry bodies, governments, researchers and research funders on national fruit fly issues through NFFC communications activities.	Ongoing
<i>Refer to priority area 7.</i>	
Manage the NFFC as a national forum for governments, research funders and growers to advise on fruit fly issues and champion a National Fruit Fly Strategy.	Ongoing
<i>In June, the Council expanded its industry membership by inviting Brett Kennedy (SA Riverland Fruit Fly Coordinator), Brett Squibb (Tasmanian apple growers) and David Daniels (General Manager of Market Development at Citrus Australia) to join the Council. The Council has met virtually five times during the reporting period: 3rd and 10th June 2020, 26th -27th August 2020, 11th-12th November 2020, 10-11 March 2021 and 23-24 June 2021. The March 2021 meeting had a strategic focus and was used to consider progress and future directions on priorities for national fruit fly issues.</i>	
Communications: promote awareness of the national fruit fly system, and the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in upholding the system.	Ongoing
<i>Awareness of the national fruit fly system is continuously promoted through the Prevent Fruit Fly website, twitter and e-newsletter. The roles and responsibilities of stakeholders are better understood and articulated with the development of the National Fruit Fly Strategy and associated Implementation Plan. The plan acknowledges the considerable and ongoing contribution by many different stakeholders to fruit fly management in Australia.</i>	
Fruit fly Symposium 2020-21: use the Symposium to collaborate on workable solutions for key national fruit fly issues and incorporate into future NFFC implementation plans.	June 2021
<i>Refer to information provided in Priority Area 2.</i>	

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES COMPLETED FOR 2020-2021		
Activity	Lead / Support	Delivery
A draft Victorian Fruit Fly Strategy 2021-25 has been developed and is currently undergoing stakeholder consultation. The strategy covers exotic and established fruit fly activities and will build on the success of the Managing Fruit Fly in Victoria Action Plan 2015-2020.	Agriculture Victoria	To be provided
<i>Victoria's Fruit Fly Strategy 2021-25 has been endorsed. The strategy covers exotic and established fruit fly activities and build on the success of the Managing Fruit Fly in Victoria Action Plan 2015-2020.</i>		
A draft WA Fruit Fly Strategy 2020-2025 has been developed and is currently undergoing stakeholder consultation. The strategy covers exotic and established fruit fly activities.	DPIRD	TBA





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