

NFFC Communiqué

The 36th meeting of the National Fruit Fly Council (NFFC, or the Council) was held as a hybrid meeting on 28th February 2025. Council members attended in person at the AgriBio Centre located at 5 Ring Road, Bundoora, Victoria, as well as virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Council members who attended in person were invited to participate in a tour of the AgriBio Centre facilities and other fruit fly related research programs undertaken at the Centre. The tour was held prior to the NFFC Meeting and was facilitated by several Agriculture Victoria staff for whom the Council wishes to thank for sharing their time and expertise.

NFFC Phase 4 Reporting

Work by the NFFC Council remains guided by the priorities set in the National Fruit Fly Strategy (NFFS) of which the current version covers the period from 2020-2025 inclusive. The NFFS was developed by the Council to provide a supporting framework for stakeholder cooperation as part of a national approach to fruit fly management in Australia. Implementation of the NFFS is monitored by the Council through development and review of Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs) designed to bring together key fruit fly activities as outlined in the NFFS and to reflect shared goals supported by stakeholders. Each AIP is evaluated by the Council through the development of Annual Implementation Reports (AIRs) which also report against the NFFS Strategic Framework. Both AIPs and AIRs inform the development of strategically aligned annual priorities that guide work undertaken by the Council and the Executive Committee during each calendar year.

Final drafts of NFFC Implementation Report 2023-24 and NFFC Implementation Plan 2024-25 were prepared by the NFFC Manager and provided to the Council for feedback and finalisation at NFFC Meeting #36. During the meeting, the Council agreed to endorse the report and plan out of session within a two-week period following the meeting. Final versions of both documents will subsequently be uploaded to the Prevent Fruit Fly website for broader communication.

NFFC Phase 4 Annual Report 2024

The NFFC Annual Report 2024 will be made available on the Prevent Fruit Fly website.

National Fruit Fly Strategy Review and Development Planning

A new NFFS is planned to cover the period from 2026-2035 inclusive thereby succeeding the current NFFS covering the period from 2020-2025 inclusive. A key activity supporting review and development of the new NFFS is a planned Economic Analysis. This activity would see the development of an economic framework to provide updated baseline information on potential regional and national impacts of fruit fly to guide prioritisation of Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) efforts and quantify the estimated return on future investment in national fruit fly related activities. The Council were provided with an overview of the Economic Analysis component of the strategy review during the meeting. During the meeting, it was confirmed that the NFFC Executive Committee would act as the formal governance group throughout the planning process and circulate feedback regularly to the full Council.

The next NFFC Committee meeting (Meeting #37) will be held on 18 September 2025.