

# **Turf Fund**

# **Annual Investment Plan**

## **2025/26**



September 2025

**Hort**  
**Innovation** **TURF**  
**FUND**



# Proposed investments in 2025/26

A list of proposed R&D and marketing investments in the Turf Fund in 2025/26 can be found below. Each year, turf industry representatives meet as advisory panels to discuss investment recommendations in line with the Turf Strategic Investment Plan (SIP). At these meetings, the panels are provided with a financial forecast and an investment analysis of current investments. Based on this information, they provide Hort Innovation with advice on priorities for investment for the upcoming year.

The turf R&D and marketing advisory panel met on September 17, 2024, January 14, 2025 and May 13, 2025 to discuss, provide advice on, and prioritise recommendations on investments in 2025/26. The R&D investment recommendations are listed in order of priority in Table 1 and the marketing investment recommendation is listed in Table 2.

*Note: Investments will be aligned to form multi-industry projects where possible, and all investments are subject to funding availability. If investments do not occur in this financial year, they will be reconsidered and reprioritised for the Turf Annual Investment Plan (AIP) 2026/27. Any investments not endorsed by June 30, 2025, will not be included in this report.*

**Table 1. Turf R&D advisory panel prioritised investment recommendations in 2025/26**

Priority	Investment	Outcome	Strategy
1	Plant growth regulators in on-farm turf establishment	1. Demand creation 2. Industry supply, productivity and sustainability	1.1 Consumer demand 2.4 Optimised inputs
2	Nuffield Scholarship	3. Extension and Capability	3.3 Improved Capability
3	Usage, attitudes, and contribution of natural turfgrass	4. Business insights	4.2 Supply Strategies

**Table 2. Turf marketing advisory panel investment recommendation in 2025/26**

Priority	Investment	Outcome	Strategy
1	Turf marketing plan FY25-FY27	1. Demand creation	1. Consumer demand

## Current contracted R&D and marketing projects

Current contracted projects in the Turf Fund as at July 1, 2025, which are aligned to the respective outcomes and strategies in the turf SIP, can be seen in Tables 3 and 4. More information about these projects is available on the Hort Innovation website where the projects have a hyperlink.

**Table 3. Current contracted turf R&D project actuals at 2024/25 and forecast to 2027/28**

Project code	Project title	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Forecast \$	2026/27 Forecast \$	2027/28 Forecast \$
<a href="#">MT20007</a>	Regulatory support and coordination (pesticides)	2,005	-	-	-
<a href="#">MT21015</a>	Horticulture impact assessment program 2020/21 to 2022/23	1,509	-	-	-
<a href="#">MT22003</a>	Nuffield scholarships	-	50,700	-	14,300
<a href="#">MT24005</a>	Horticulture Impact Assessment Program 2023/24 to 2025/26	903	602	753	-
<a href="#">MT24008</a>	Regulatory support and coordination (pesticides)	3,331	2,221	2,221	3,331
<a href="#">TU21001</a>	Turf industry development and extension	182,876	251,461	-	-
<a href="#">TU21002</a>	Moshie National Lean Leaders Program	0	4,000	-	-
<a href="#">TU22000</a>	Turf industry communications program	100,000	100,000	100,000	95,192
TU23910	Industry and grower consultation including SIAPs and EAPs	4,400	-	-	-
TU24001	TIDE independent mid-term review	31,602	-	-	-
<a href="#">TU24002</a>	Knowledge sharing and capability building for future generations of turf producers	56,036	56,155	56,155	30,190
<a href="#">TU24003</a>	Plant growth regulators in on-farm turf establishment	47,400	102,200	87,400	-
<a href="#">TU24004</a>	Usage, Attitudes, and Contribution of Natural Turfgrass	67,010	268,038	-	-
TU24910	Industry and grower consultation including SIAPs and EAPs	16,001	-	-	-
TU24999	Industry consultation	100	-	-	-
Total		513,174	835,377	246,528	143,013



**Table 4. Current contracted turf marketing project actuals at 2024/25 and forecast to 2027/28**

Project code	Project title	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Forecast \$
TU2391O	Industry and grower consultation including SIAPs and EAPs	383	-
TU245O1	Turf marketing plan FY25-FY27	80,000	135,000
TU2491O	Industry and grower consultation including SIAPs and EAPs	1,352	-
Total		81,735	135,000

## Financial statements

Financial statements for the turf R&D levy fund can be seen in Table 5 below, and the marketing levy fund can be seen in Table 6.

**Table 5. Turf R&D levy fund actuals at 2024/25 and forecast to 2027/28 (as at July 1, 2025)**

	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Forecast \$	2026/27 Forecast \$	2027/28 Forecast \$
Opening balance	697,455	809,690	434,368	276,145
Levies from growers	423,247	420,000	420,000	440,000
Commonwealth funds	304,928	771,064	547,446	410,997
Other income	31,728	14,689	9,338	9,234
Total income	759,902	1,205,753	976,785	860,231
Project funding <sup>1</sup>	513,174	1,297,701	821,352	591,708
Available for investment	-	-	100,000	100,000
Service delivery	96,682	244,427	173,541	130,286
Total matched expenditure	609,856	1,542,129	1,094,893	821,994
Federal Government levy collection costs	37,812	38,946	40,115	41,318
Annual levy cash movement	112,235	-375,322	-158,223	-3,081
Closing balance	809,690	434,368	276,145	273,064

Note:

1. Project funding includes committed projects and projects supported by the advisory panel and currently in the process of procurement.

**Table 6. Turf marketing levy fund actuals at 2024/25 and forecast to 2027/28 (as at July 1, 2025)**

	<b>2024/25 Actual \$</b>	<b>2025/26 Forecast \$</b>	<b>2026/27 Forecast \$</b>	<b>2027/28 Forecast \$</b>
Opening balance	137,010	138,265	53,248	54,496
Levies from growers	105,812	100,000	100,000	110,000
Other income	6,157	500	525	551
<b>Total income</b>	<b>111,969</b>	<b>100,500</b>	<b>100,525</b>	<b>110,551</b>
Project funding <sup>1</sup>	81,735	142,000	72,000	7,000
Available for investment	-	-	-	75,000
Service delivery	19,526	33,917	17,197	19,586
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>101,261</b>	<b>175,917</b>	<b>89,197</b>	<b>101,586</b>
Federal Government levy collection costs	9,453	9,600	10,080	10,584
Annual levy cash movement	1,255	-85,017	1,248	-1,618
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>138,265</b>	<b>53,248</b>	<b>54,496</b>	<b>52,878</b>

Note:

1. Project funding includes committed projects and projects supported by the advisory panel and currently in the process of procurement.

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