

Processing Tomato Fund

Annual Report 2019/20



About Hort Innovation and the Processing Tomato Fund

Hort Innovation is the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australia's horticulture sector. We work closely with industry to invest the voluntary processing tomato R&D levy – together with Australian Government contributions – into strategic initiatives through the Hort Innovation Processing Tomato Fund.

The voluntary levy was established by the industry as part of a 'collective industry fund' arrangement with Hort Innovation, and is set at a rate of 0.5 per cent of gross value of production.

How are investment decisions made?

Investments specific to the Hort Innovation Processing Tomato Fund are guided by the industry's Strategic Investment Plan (SIP). This document has been developed by the industry to outline key priorities for investment. The industry also has an advisory panel to provide prioritisation advice to Hort Innovation on potential voluntary levy investments.

Projects in the 2019/20 financial year

The 2019/20 financial year saw the continuation of the industry's capacity building program.

Beginning in the previous financial year, **Processing tomato industry capacity building (TM17000)** is delivered by the Australian Processing Tomato Research Council. It supports awareness and adoption of R&D, delivers best practice information, enhances skills of existing industry participants and encourages new entrants. Its normal activities include, but aren't limited to:

- Delivery of communication channels including the annual *Australian Processing Tomato Grower Magazine*, quarterly *Tomato Topics* newsletters, plus R&D content on the industry website
- Events including industry field days and annual R&D forums, with 2020 activities postponed due to COVID-19
- The collection of industry benchmark data and statistics, communicated to industry through annual data and statistics reports
- Support for on-farm trials, including cultivar evaluation trials, and disseminating results to industry.

During the coming year, you can keep up to date with any new projects and results in the Processing Tomato Fund by visiting www.horticulture.com.au/processing-tomato. Hort Innovation also sends news and alerts to Hort Innovation members and contacts, so if you haven't already, be sure to sign up for free at www.horticulture.com.au/sign-up.

Additional work in 2019/20

Outside of the Hort Innovation Processing Tomato Fund, Hort Innovation delivered a range of activities to support the wider horticulture sector through the intense and unpredictable year that was 2019/20. We encourage you to download a copy of the full Hort Innovation company annual report at www.horticulture.com.au/annual-report-portal to better understand the company's responses and activities. Just some of the work delivered outside of our 37 levy funds included:

- **Information and data to assist through COVID-19**, including the new *Hort Innovation Insights* podcast (www.horticulture.com.au/webinars) and regular consumer attitude and behaviour information (www.horticulture.com.au/impact-monitor)
- **The Good Mood Food** across-horticulture marketing campaign to support industries through the effects of recent times (www.horticulture.com.au/the-good-mood-food)
- **Preparation support for fall armyworm**, including emergency minor use permits and an educational podcast series, www.bit.ly/armyworm-podcast
- **Investments in Hort Innovation's Hort Frontiers strategic partnership initiative** to address longer-term and often complex issues and opportunities critical to the future of Australian horticulture – see www.horticulture.com.au/hort-frontiers
- **Projects supported by grants secured by Hort Innovation**, ranging from cross-sector Rural R&D for Profit initiatives to horticulture-specific work to aid in access to crop protection products.

Hort Innovation Processing Tomato Fund financial operating statement (2019/20)

	R&D	TOTAL (\$)
	2019/20 July – June	2019/20 July – June
OPENING BALANCE	34,281	34,281
Levies from growers (net of collection costs)	115,196	115,196
Australian Government money	195,468	195,468
Other income*	–	–
TOTAL INCOME	310,664	310,664
Project funding	343,797	343,797
Consultation with and advice from growers	–	–
Service delivery - base	15,246	15,246
Service delivery - shared	21,892	21,892
Service delivery - fund specific	10,000	10,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	390,936	390,936
Levy contribution to across-industry activity	–	–
CLOSING BALANCE	(45,990)	(45,990)
Levy collection costs	–	–

* Interest, royalties

