

Apple & Pear Strategic Investment Advisory Panel meeting summary

Date: 23 June 2019

Attendance: Robert Green, Peter Hall, Kevin Sanders, Barney Hyams, David Williams

Location: Melbourne

Next Meeting: 09 September 2019

Overview

Summary – Apple & Pear R&D

1. The objective of the one-day Apple & Pear SIAP was to provide *advice for concepts and updates to the outcomes/strategies, Biosecurity, Trade and Hort Frontiers* and reviewing R&D activities.

Advice received and next steps as at 23 June 2019

- ✓ **Apples and Pears Crop Forecast:** *The SIAP did not support Hort Innovation proceeding to RFP for this concept. Instead it supported extending the existing project for one year (2021) and revisiting the concept after results for other industries of the related work under the Rural Research and Development for Profit program.*
- ✓ **Biosecurity preparedness through developing capacity for in-field detection of Spotted Winged Drosophila:** *The SIAP supported Hort Innovation contributing to this project from the Apple and Pear Fund, with consideration given to apportioning the contribution according to the production value of the contributing industries*
- ✓ **Mitigating the potential spread of Xylella fastidiosa (Xf) by understanding vectors:** *The SIAP supported Hort Innovation making an investment from the Apple and Pear Fund in this project on an equitable basis, considering splitting the investment according to the value of production.*
- ✓ **PIPS -** *The SIAP supported Hort Innovation asking RMCG to prepare concepts for a cluster of projects, with components including research, extension and program coordination, and with each concept stating the extent of grower consultation and support, for consideration by the SIAP.*
- ✓ **Smarter pear orchards to maximise and sustain fruit quality and yield:** *The SIAP did not support proceeding to RFP for this concept as it stands and instead develop a refined version, more attuned to the needs of growers*
- ✓ **Smarter pear orchards to maximise and sustain fruit quality and yield:** *The SIAP agreed: (1) for Hort Innovation to provide feedback to the concept developer. This may include. (2) Industry to accelerate discussion with growers and, if there is a good response, to include this topic as an agenda item at the next SIAP meeting.*
- ✓ **Across horticulture support for achieving export MRL compliance:** *The SIAP supported this concept and supported the Apple and Pear Fund contributing to this investment.*

- ✓ **Using remote sensing for apple and pear crop production forecasting:** *The SIAP agreed for Hort Innovation to have discussions about the issues raised at the SIAP meeting with service providers of remote sensing and report back to the SIAP.*
- ✓
- ✓ **Hort Frontiers Leadership Program:** *The SIAP agreed for Hort Innovation to include an item on the agenda for the next SIAP meeting, to discuss whether to invest levy funds in any of the Frontier Leadership Programs.*

Anyone seeking further information on Hort Innovation's Apple & Pear R&D investments should note that a full list of projects, together with an overview of the program financials will be available on the Apple & Pear webpage of the Hort Innovation website

Next steps

Next SIAP meeting: 09 September 2019

Contact

If you want to know more about these or any other investments, you can talk to us in person at upcoming events or connect directly with the Apple & Pear Industry Relationship Manager.

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