

Apple and Pear Fund R&D Strategic Investment Advisory Panel meeting summary

Date: 30 January 2020

Panellists: Craig Chester, Robert Green, Kevin Sanders, Barnett Sinclair Hyams, James Walters, David Williams

Apology: Peter Hall

Location: Melbourne Victoria

Next Meeting: 8 September 2020 – Zoom/ teleconference

Summary

The meeting objectives were

- To provide Fund financial update.
- To review and seek advice for the Swarm Farm project AP16005 Stop/Go.
- To review and seek advice on Innovation and Adoption program (AP15004) & Delivery of the apple and pear Future Orchards extension program (AP15005).
- To seek advice on new Investment recommendations.

Apple and Pear Fund important links

- Annual Report 2019/20 - <https://www.horticulture.com.au/globalassets/hort-innovation/levy-fund-financial-and-management-documents/fund-annual-report-pdfs-201920/hort-innovation-annual-report-2019-20-apple-pear-fund.pdf>
- Fund management - <https://www.horticulture.com.au/growers/apple-pear-fund/fund-management/>
- Strategic Investment Plan - <https://www.horticulture.com.au/globalassets/hort-innovation/levy-fund-financial-and-management-documents/sip-pdfs-new/hortinnovation-sip-apple-pear-2017-2021.pdf>

Advice received and next steps as at 30 January 2020

R&D fund:

SIAP supported the following investment recommendations pending funding availability:

- **Agri-Tech Solutions** – SIAP supported the Swarn Farm Project – AP16005 to continue.
- **PIPS3 projects** – SIAP supported this investment recommendation.
- **Apple and pear industry development and innovation program** – SIAP supported this investment pending review of the Industry needs analysis.
- **Apple and pear rootstock evaluation** – SIAP Supported this investment but deferred the concept for consideration in 12 months' time pending funding availability.
- **Apple and pear virus genetic resource repository** – SIAP supported Hort Innovation exploring co-funding opportunities for this Investment recommendation

SIAP did not support the following investment recommendations:

- **Control of Phytophthora with suppressive soil microbiota** – not an industry priority
- **Reduce oversetting in vigorous rootstocks** – not appropriate for the Industry

- **Identification and characterisation of scab resistant gene in Australian cultivars** – not an Industry priority given budget limitations.
- **Plastic fruit stickers replacement** – there is no market failure.

Anyone seeking further information on the Apple and Pear Fund R&D investments should note that a full list of projects, together with an overview of the program financials is available on the Apple and Pear Fund pages of the Hort Innovation website.

Talk to us

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 and Pear Fund's Industry Strategic Partner.

Upcoming events:

- Nil

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