

Nursery Strategic Investment Advisory Panel meeting summary

SIAP members

John Bunker
Karen Brock
Sonja Cameron
Carole Fudge
Mike Mehigan
Hamish Mitchell
Peter Vaughan

Apologies

Mike Mehigan
Anthony Tesselar

Chair

Michael Worthington

Hort Innovation

John Vatikiotis
Neil Burgess

Invited Guests

David Weisz
Ben Peacock (Republic of Everything)
Meg Frawley (Republic of Everything)
Alexandra Loftus (The Bravery)

Minute Taker

Marilyn Hill

Date: 7 and 8 August 2018

Location: Brisbane Convention Centre

Next Meeting: 9 October 2018

Overview

The SIAP meeting was held on the 7 and 8 August 2018. The meeting coincided with QLD Green Expo event held at the Brisbane Convention Centre. Key focus areas from the meeting are highlighted below.

1.1 Marketing Update

Ben Peacock, Meg Frawley (ROE) and Alexandra Loftus (The Bravery) joined the meeting, to provide a presentation and overview of activity in 2020 Vision in the areas of: Green Light Tour; Metro Urban Forest Stream; Looking Forward FY2019; Business & Government Recommendation.

- David Weisz will access and circulate the presentation made by Professor Rod Simpson, Environment Commissioner, Greater Sydney Commission on the history of Sydney, the history of development and infrastructure, all the variables that are going into building the new city in Badgery's Creek and the integration of green space.
- Meg Frawley will access information on the prescribed per hectare density levels set by each State for delivery by each LGA and circulate to the SIAP.

David Weisz, Ben Peacock and Alexandra Loftus provided a presentation and update on the Plant Life Balance (PLB) project covering: Looking Back– KPI Review; Bunning's Update; Looking Forward-FY2019; and Consumer Retail and Industry.

David Weisz advised that the plan is to develop the core looks, and within each core look, identify a selection of plants that will definitively be part of the look. This information will be fed back to industry to assist with planning and planting, noting the comment that industry ideally needs to be 12 months in advance of the timelines being proposed, for propagation purposes. The mechanism for communication

with SIAP/ industry to ensure growers are not taken by surprise in relation to stocks, has not yet been developed.

1.2 Financials Update

Neil Burgess and John Vatikiotis will be working on a full gap analysis of projects compared against the SIP which will be circulated once finalised. While the balance is always flexible, the analysis will provide a snapshot of the portfolio status and the spread of investment compared against the SIP.

1.3 NY15002 – Building the Resilience and On-Farm Biosecurity Capacity of the Australian Production Nursery Industry

Andrew Manners, Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, joined the meeting to provide a presentation and overview of the status of the project.

Briefly the project has achieved:

- Approximately 60 fact sheets, pest management plans, and nursery papers have been produced especially targeting Australian production nurseries. These are available on the FMS and NGIA websites and have been very well received. During the past project and this project to date, 50 workshops, attracting 1,200 attendances, have been completed across the country, along with eight webinars attracting 150 attendees but with a significantly higher number of views.

1.4 NY15004 – National Nursery Industry Biosecurity Program

John McDonald, Nursery and Garden Industry Australia, joined the meeting to provide a presentation and overview of the status of the project which commenced in 2016 and will run through to 2020. Précis of discussion:

- Mr McDonald outlined the four key themes and the activities covered within the themes of: on-farm biosecurity and national market access; biosecurity preparedness; biosecurity awareness; pesticide minor use program.

1.5 LP15001 – Masterclass Leadership Program

David Hanlon, The Right Mind, joined the meeting to provide a presentation and overview of the status of the project.

- Webinars. In relation to the webinars produced, given that it is levy funds that have been invested, Mr Hanlon will look at how they could be made more widely available to the nursery industry levy payers, either via The Right Mind or NGIA websites, and availability effectively communicated.

1.6 NGIQ – CEO Update

Mr Ian Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer of the State peak body, Nursery & Garden Industry Queensland, joined the meeting to provide an informal personal overview of industry status from a Queensland perspective. Pivotal points

- The industry is currently experiencing a shortage of stock supply, but without an apparent concomitant appetite to increase prices, instead looking for ways to cut costs.
- Biosecurity risks seemed to have increased during Mr Atkinson's absence from the industry.

- NSW Department of Agriculture is working on the third edition of *Managing water in plant nurseries: a guide to irrigation, drainage and water recycling in containerised plant nurseries* which will have updated tables based on work carried out by NGIQ in terms of testing some of the more modern sprinklers. The iSpace tool is also still available to assist with planning.

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