

# What happened in the Olive Fund last year?

Annual Report 2021/22



# About Hort Innovation and the Olive 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 olive R&D levy, together with Australian Government contributions, into key initiatives for growers, through the Olive Fund. We're proud of the work we do to help drive productivity, profitability, and demand for olive growers and the horticulture sector.

Read on for an overview of what Hort Innovation delivered in the Olive Fund during the year.

We also encourage you to download a copy of the overarching Hort Innovation Annual Report 2021/22 at [www.horticulture.com.au/annual-report-portal](http://www.horticulture.com.au/annual-report-portal) to see how Hort Innovation worked to benefit the horticulture sector during the year.

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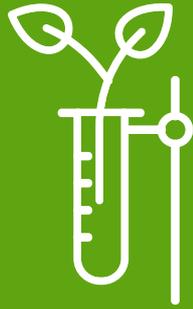
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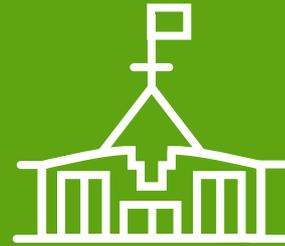
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**\$256,193**

invested in R&D



**\$399,228**

in levies collected

by the Government and passed on to Hort Innovation for investment

### Industry facts



**98,000t**

Due to the biennial nature of olive trees, production volumes alternate significantly from year to year. In 2020/21, 130,000 tonnes of olives were produced, with olive production over the last five years averaging at 98,000 per annum.



**69%**

The majority of Australia's olives are grown in Victoria, which is responsible for 69 per cent of production volume, with approximately 11 per cent grown in South Australia, 10 per cent in Western Australia and nine per cent in New South Wales



**98%**

The majority of olives grown in Australia (98 per cent) are used in the production of olive oil

These facts and more can be found in the Australian Horticulture Statistics Handbook, which is delivered by Hort Innovation each year. The handbook is packed with horticulture statistical information and analysis for some 75 categories. See [www.horticulture.com.au/horticulture-statistics-handbook](http://www.horticulture.com.au/horticulture-statistics-handbook).

# Just some of the things delivered for you during the year



**Educational resources via the Olive Wellness Institute** ([olivewellnessinstitute.org](https://olivewellnessinstitute.org)), to get evidence-based health information about olive products into the hands of health professionals – and the olive industry



**The industry communications and extension program**, delivering *Grove Innovation* newsletters, editions of *R&D Insights*, best practice workshops and more – see [hortinn.com/ol18000](https://hortinn.com/ol18000)



**A range of pest and biosecurity investments** to ensure the olive industry is equipped to manage present and future threats – see [www.horticulture.com.au/olive](https://www.horticulture.com.au/olive)



**Access to consumer insights through multi-industry investments** to understand consumer behaviours, attitudes and purchase intentions – see [www.horticulture.com.au/olive](https://www.horticulture.com.au/olive)



**Investments in the 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](https://www.horticulture.com.au/hort-frontiers)\*

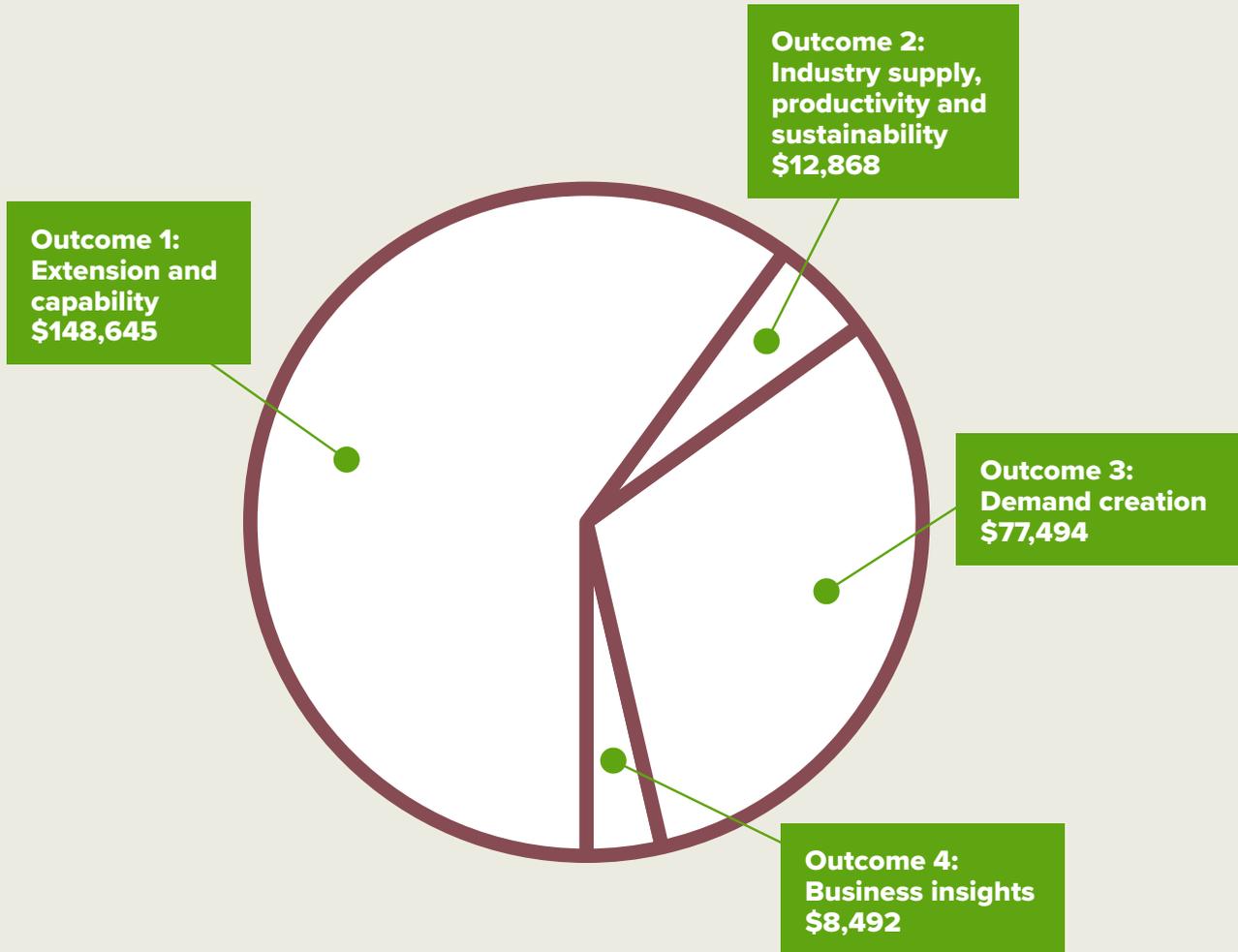


**Projects supported by grants secured by Hort Innovation**, ranging from cross-sector Rural R&D for Profit initiatives to horticulture-specific work to aid in access to crop protection products – see the Hort Innovation Annual Report 2021/22 for more details\*

You can visit [www.horticulture.com.au/olive](https://www.horticulture.com.au/olive) at any time to access information on new, ongoing and completed projects, and to download resources produced by your levy investments.

\*These initiatives were delivered outside of the Hort Innovation Olive Fund and, in most instances, did not involve the industry levy

# Here's how your R&D levy was invested over the year



The olive Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) guides investments specific to the Hort Innovation Olive Fund. The SIP features priority outcome areas identified and agreed upon by the industry. Hort Innovation works to invest in R&D initiatives aligned to these.

The above chart shows how project expenditure in the Olive Fund during 2021/22 was aligned to the SIP. We have allocated each project to a SIP outcome based on its primary objective.

# Which projects were in each of the SIP outcome areas?

## Outcome 1: Extension and capability

Improved capability and an innovative culture in the Australian olive industry maximises return on investments in productivity and demand.

Project title and code	2021/22 investment	Status	More information
Extending OliveCare to foster excellence in production of Australian olives (OL17006)	\$43,850	Completed	<a href="http://hortinn.com/ol17006">hortinn.com/ol17006</a>
Australian olive industry communications and extension program (OL18000)	\$104,795	Ongoing	<a href="http://hortinn.com/ol18000">hortinn.com/ol18000</a>

## Outcome 2: Industry supply, productivity and sustainability

The Australian olive industry has increased profitability, efficiency and sustainability through innovative R&D, BMPs and enhanced biosecurity preparedness.

Project title and code	2021/22 investment	Status	More information
Improving preparedness of the Australian horticultural sector to the threat potentially posed by <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> (a severe biosecurity risk) (MT17006)	\$10,404	Ongoing	<a href="http://hortinn.com/mt17006">hortinn.com/mt17006</a>
Regulatory support and coordination (pesticides) (MT20007)	\$961	Ongoing	<a href="http://hortinn.com/mt20007">hortinn.com/mt20007</a>
Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative Phase 2 (HA19007)	\$453	Ongoing	
Olive industry minor use program (OL16000)	\$1,050	Ongoing	<a href="http://hortinn.com/ol16000">hortinn.com/ol16000</a>

## Outcome 3: Demand creation

Demand creation supports the Australian olive industry to develop existing and future domestic and international markets.

Project title and code	2021/22 investment	Status	More information
Educating health professionals about Australian olive products (OL19001)	\$75,056	Ongoing	<a href="http://hortinn.com/ol19001">hortinn.com/ol19001</a>
Australian horticulture international demand creation (ST21007)	\$2,438	Ongoing	<a href="http://hortinn.com/st21007">hortinn.com/st21007</a>

### Outcome 4: Business insights

The Australian olive industry is more profitable through informed decision-making using consumer knowledge and tracking, benchmarking performance and independent reviews.

Project title and code	2021/22 investment	Status	More information
Horticulture trade data (MT19005)	\$4,076	Ongoing	<a href="http://hortinn.com/mt19005">hortinn.com/mt19005</a>
Consumer demand spaces for horticulture (MT21003)	\$2,139	Ongoing	<a href="http://hortinn.com/mt21003">hortinn.com/mt21003</a>
Pilot program: Consumer usage, attitude and brand tracking (MT21201)	\$511	Completed	<a href="http://hortinn.com/mt21201">hortinn.com/mt21201</a>
Consumer usage and attitude tracking 2022/23 (MT21202)	\$1,767	Ongoing	<a href="http://hortinn.com/mt21202">hortinn.com/mt21202</a>



# Financial operating statement

## Olive Fund Financial operating statement 2021/22

	R&D (\$)	Total (\$)
	2021/22 July – June	2021/22 July – June
<b>OPENING BALANCE</b>	<b>(190,909)</b>	<b>(190,909)</b>
Levies from growers	399,228	399,228
Australian Government money	151,316	151,316
Other income*	(46)	(46)
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>550,498</b>	<b>550,498</b>
Project funding	256,193	256,193
Consultation with and advice from growers	364	364
Service delivery	46,075	46,075
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>302,631</b>	<b>302,631</b>
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>29,008</b>	<b>29,008</b>
Levy collection costs	27,950	27,950

\*Interest, royalties

**Levy collection costs** – These are the costs associated with the collection of levies from industry charged by Levy Revenue Services (LRS)

**Service delivery** – Also known as Corporate Cost Recovery (CCR), this is the total cost of managing the investment portfolio charged by Hort Innovation

# Making sure that levy investment decisions align with industry priorities

## What will be the Olive Fund's focus over the next five years?



Hort Innovation developed the olive Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) in 2021 to reflect current priorities for the olive industry, involving extensive consultation with olive growers and industry stakeholders, including the Australian Olive Industry Association. The SIP is the roadmap that helps guide Hort Innovation's oversight and management of individual levy industry investment programs.

The olive SIP lays the foundation for decision-making in levy investments and represents the balanced interests of the olive industry. The most important function of the SIP is to make sure that levy investment decisions align with industry priorities.

The olive SIP identifies four outcome areas that will contribute to the productivity and profitability of the sector. They are:

- Industry supply, productivity and sustainability
- Demand creation
- Extension and capability
- Business insights.

## What projects will the Fund be investing in next year?

The olive Annual Investment Plan (AIP) 2022/23 details how Hort Innovation spends levy funds over 12 months. The olive industry SIP guides investment decisions, and our consultation process prioritises investments based on potential impact and levy fund availability.

Hort Innovation publishes Annual Investment Plans each year over the lifespan of the SIP and advises industry stakeholders via various communication channels.

Hort Innovation will continue to report on fund performance regularly, focusing on outcomes and the impact of investments.



Visit [www.horticulture.com.au/olive-fund-management](http://www.horticulture.com.au/olive-fund-management) to view both documents and better understand how Hort Innovation invests your levy.

# Happy trees equal great yields and high-quality olives

## An integrated pest and disease management program has equipped olive growers with the tools needed to manage their groves sustainably

The investment *An integrated pest and disease management extension program for the olive industry (OL17001)* was delivered by Western Sydney University from 2017 to 2020. The program delivered olive growers up-to-date, practical information for implementing integrated pest and disease management (IPDM) strategies in their groves. While the team focused on the sustainable management of three major olive pests and diseases – black scale, olive

lace bug and anthracnose – all potential pests, diseases and disorders, as well as beneficial organisms, were addressed.

The project team worked closely with the Australian Olive Association (AOA) to provide extension outputs to industry. The program brought together a national network of experienced IPDM researchers, extension scientists and industry representatives.

### Meet Peter and Marlies Eicher from Salute Oliva in Boort, Victoria

Peter and Marlies of Salute Oliva grow organically certified table olives and olive oil on their property in Boort, Victoria where they planted eight hectares in 2000. They grow three varieties of olives; Kalamata (mainly for table olives), an Italian variety, Frantoio (mainly for extra virgin olive oil) and a Spanish variety, Manzanillo (for table olives and extra virgin olive oil).

Engineers by trade, they take an analytical approach with their olive growing from start to finish with a mindset to develop the best product they can – they are not happy with “half-ok” results. They consider themselves to have three businesses in one – taking a holistic

approach to their organic grove, manufacturing olive and olive oil products, and sales and marketing activities to sell directly across Australia.

The Olive Biz resources developed through the project *An integrated pest and disease management extension program for the olive industry (OL17001)* gave them insights, tools and management strategies implemented within an organic olive grove.

Peter and Marlies believe integrated pest and disease management actions such as cover cropping will also improve soil health and microbes, resulting in increased tree health, increased yield and quality olives, while decreasing pest and disease risks.

“Before we got involved in the integrated pest and disease management program, we were a little unsure of the extent of our scale pests and what the control options were. The pest was not out of control, but as organic producers we relied on pruning infected trees. We have been actively managing scale over the past two seasons with increased rainfall and humidity.”



*Peter and Marlies with a one-year reworked tree.*

Continued



### *Two years since re-working.*

The project provided Peter and Marlies with the resources and information to:

- Monitor and continue to keep scales at a manageable level without letting them get out of hand and cause significant damage
- Manage ants and to stop 'scale farming' by placing a sticky paste on the tree trunks to stop ants, weevils and crawling insects from migrating from the ground into the tree canopy
- Introduce cover crops to encourage wasps and other scale predators
- Time their organic oil sprays – they are currently re-working (pollarding) approximately 16 per cent of the orchard per year (over six years) to reduce tree size for better harvesting efficiency and to help oil spray coverage and reduce pest and disease pressure.

“Being organic does not mean that you don’t do anything – we are bringing balance to our grove while also reducing the impact of pests and diseases on our olive grove. This spring we’re considering buying

and spreading lacewings, wasps and other beneficial insects to promote biodiversity in our orchard and reduce the impact of other pests and diseases.”

At Salute Olivia, Peter and Marlies also produce their own compost from tree prunings, waste from olive oil processing, and graze sheep. These are all resources they use to help improve soil health and support tree health in their olive groves.

“We believe that happy trees equal great yields and high-quality olives.”

“

*We believe that happy trees equal great yields and high-quality olives.”*

**Peter and Marlies Eicher, olive growers from Salute Oliva in Bort, Victoria**

# Minor use permits

The Hort Innovation Olive Fund supports the submission of applications for new and renewed minor use permits for the industry, as well as data generation activities to support chemical permits and registrations, and strategic agrichemical reviews.

Together these efforts provide industry access to safe, relevant and effective chemicals to manage pests, weeds and diseases.

For full details on these activities and links to relevant information, visit [hortinn.com/olive-minor-use](http://hortinn.com/olive-minor-use).

## Current permits

Below is a list of minor use permits for the olive industry, current as of 15 August 2022.

Permit ID	Description	Date issued	Expiry date	Permit holder
PER14414	Natrasoap insecticidal soap spray / Olives / Olive lace bug	04-Oct-13	30-Sep-23	Australian Olive Association (AOA) C/Hort Innovation
PER13999 Version 8	Dimethoate / Olives (oil production only) / Olive lace bug, green vegetable bug and Rutherglen bug	19-Apr-13	31-Jul-26	Hort Innovation
PER85411 Version 2	Paraquat and Diquat (Spray Seed) / Olives / Range of broadleaf and grass weeds (as per label)	01-Nov-17	30-Nov-22	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER14575 Version 3	Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban) / Olives / Ants, African black beetle and light brown apple moth	23-Dec-13	31-Mar-25	Hort Innovation
PER14460 Version 3	Ethephon / Olives / Fruit loosening	01-Jun-14	30-Apr-27	Hort Innovation
PER14791 Version 4	Alpha-cypermethrin / Olives / Curculio beetle, apple weevil and cutworms	06-May-14	30-Nov-26	Hort Innovation
PER80718	Methyl Bromide / Fruit and fruiting vegetables, food producing plants and ornamentals / Fruit fly, silverleaf whiteflies and thrips for biosecurity decontamination (All States)	12-Apr-15	31-Mar-25	Biosecurity SA
PER87332	Pyraclostrobin + Metiram (Aero) / Olives / Anthracnose	01-Jul-19	31-Jul-24	Hort Innovation
PER13859	Dimethoate / Orchard cleanup – fruit fly host crops following harvest / Fruit fly	09-Feb-15	31-Jul-24	Growcom
PER14897 Version 2	Clothianidin (Samurai) / Olives / Olive lace bug	04-Mar-15	31-Mar-23	AOA C/Hort Innovation

Continued

## Minor use permits

### Current permits (continued)

Permit ID	Description	Date issued	Expiry date	Permit holder
PER86677	Esfenvalerate (Sumi-Alpha Flex insecticide) / Olives / Olive lace bug	21-Dec-18	31-Dec-23	Hort Innovation
PER81870 Version 2	Pyrethrins (Pyganic Organic insecticide) / Olives / Olive lace bug	17-Dec-16	31-Oct-24	Hort Innovation
PER89327	Spinetoram (Success Neo and Delegate insecticide) / Olives/ Fall armyworm ( <i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i> )	24-Mar-20	31-Mar-23	Hort Innovation
PER88358	Mancozeb / Olives / Anthracnose	02-Jul-20	31-Jul-23	Hort Innovation
PER89943	Trivora insecticide (acetamiprid + pyriproxyfen) / Custard apples, lychee, papaya, passionfruit, persimmons and olives / Various pests including fruit spotting bugs, olive lace bug, fruit fly suppression, mealybugs, scale insects, plant hoppers, leafhoppers and light brown apple moth	29-Jan-21	31-Jan-24	Hort Innovation

All efforts have been made to provide the most current, complete and accurate information on these permits, however you should always confirm all details on the APVMA website at [portal.apvma.gov.au/permits](https://portal.apvma.gov.au/permits). Details of the conditions of use associated with these permits can also be found on the APVMA site.

### Keep up to date!

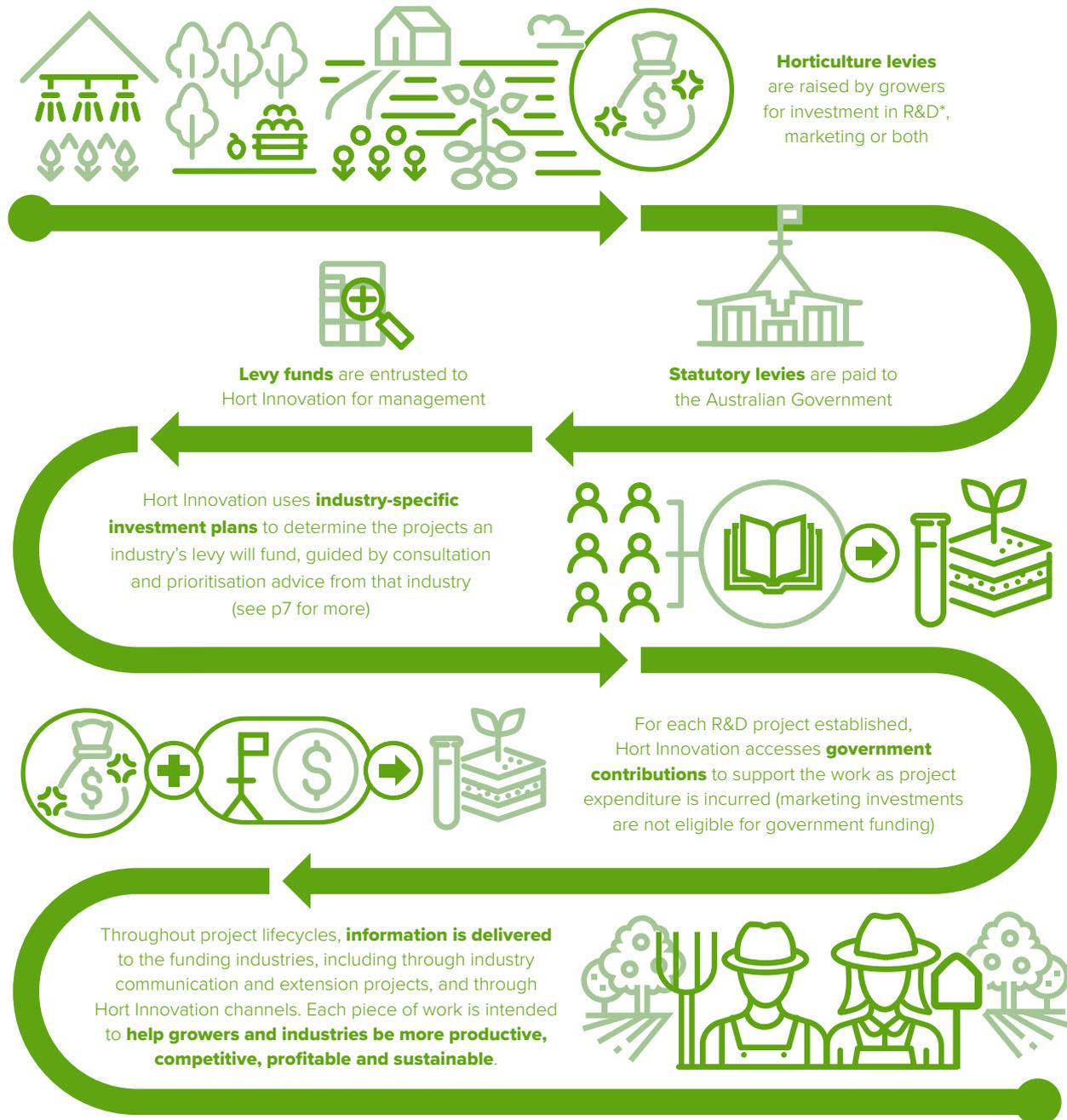
Find monthly minor use permit updates in our *Growing Innovation* e-newsletter.

Sign up for free at [www.horticulture.com.au/sign-up](https://www.horticulture.com.au/sign-up).



# How strategic levy investments are made in the Olive Fund

The below diagram shows how Hort Innovation makes strategic levy investments on behalf of horticulture industries. The olive R&D levy was invested this way during the year, guided by the olive Strategic Investment Plan 2022-2026 and advice from the industry's investment advisory panel.



\* Encapsulating extension and international trade

To learn more about funding specific to the Hort Innovation Olive Fund, visit [www.horticulture.com.au/olive](http://www.horticulture.com.au/olive). During the year, other sources of funding were also used to support activities for the benefit of Australian horticulture, including grant funding secured by Hort Innovation, co-investment dollars brokered through our Hort Frontiers initiative and centralised strategic levy reserve.

# Hort Innovation

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