

Nursery Fund Annual Investment Plan 2024/25



Proposed investments in 2024/25

A list of proposed R&D and marketing investments in the Nursery Fund in 2024/25 can be found below. Each year, nursery industry representatives meet as advisory panels to discuss investment recommendations in line with the nursery Strategic Investment Plan (SIP). At these meetings, the panels are provided with a financial forecast and an investment analysis of current investments. Based on this information, they provide Hort Innovation with advice on priorities for investment for the upcoming year.

The nursery R&D advisory panel met on May 16, 2024, to discuss, provide advice on, and prioritise recommendations on investments in 2024/25. The R&D investment recommendations are listed in order of priority in Table 1 and the marketing investment recommendations are listed in Table 2.

Note: Investments will be aligned to form multi-industry projects where possible, and all investments are subject to funding availability. If investments do not occur in this financial year, they will be reconsidered and reprioritised for the nursery Annual Investment Plan (AIP) 2025/26.

Table 1. Nursery R&D advisory panel prioritised investment recommendations in 2024/25

Priority	Investment	Outcome	Strategy
1	Nursery industry consultation agreement	2. Industry supply, productivity and sustainability	O2S2 Biosecurity preparedness
2	Mid-term evaluation of NY21000**	4. Business insights	O4S2 Benchmarking
3	Marketing impact M&E dashboard automation test**	1. Demand creation	O1S1 Consumer demand

** Foundational Investment funded in FY23/24

Table 2. Nursery marketing advisory panel prioritised investment recommendations in 2024/25

Priority	Investment	Outcome	Strategy
1	Nursery marketing program FY24	1. Demand creation	O1S1 Consumer demand

Current contracted R&D and marketing projects

Current contracted projects in the Nursery Fund as at July 1, 2024, which are aligned to the respective outcomes and strategies in the nursery SIP, can be seen in Tables 3 and 4. More information about these projects is available on the Hort Innovation website where the projects have a hyperlink.

Table 3. Current contracted R&D project actuals at 2023/24 and forecast to 2026/27

Project code	Project title	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Forecast
MT17006	Improving preparedness of the Australian horticultural sector to the threat potentially posed by <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> (a severe biosecurity risk)	35,222			
MT18005	Improving access to new germplasm through faster and more accurate diagnostics (PBRI)	13,818			
MT20007	Regulatory support and response coordination	3,957	5,935		
MT21015	Horticulture impact assessment program	5,462	4,718		
MT22000	Fund Annual Reports 2021/22	2,382	0		
MT23002	Fund Annual Reports 2022/23	489			
MT23007	M&E dashboard automation test	1,506			
NY19003	Review of the 2013 Biosecurity Plan for the nursery industry	8,621	19,986		
NY19007	Improving on-farm surveillance strategies for Tospoviruses and thrips	46,469	53,201	30,000	
NY20000	Resourcing, supporting and assessing biosecurity in nursery production (Building on NY15002)	314,158	314,158	392,697	
NY20001	National Biosecurity and Sustainable Plant Production Program	1,156,618	727,515	505,625	
NY21000	Nursery industry statistics 2020-21 to 2024-25	218,775	288,317	202,017	75,351

Project code	Project title	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Forecast
NY21002	Validating water disinfection systems in nursery production	113,036	60,000		
NY22000	Nursery industry communications program	274,115	277,990	267,362	253,090
NY22001	Nursery sustainability – undertaking a life cycle assessment		118,224		
NY22002	Mid-term review of NY20001	6,750	21,280		
NY23001	Mid-term evaluation of NY21000	9,343	18,686		
NY23002	Nursery industry consultation agreement	35,600	70,000	70,000	35,000
ST18003	Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative (PBRI) program		2,500	2,500	2,500
ST19024	Digital remote monitoring to improve horticulture environmental performance - GIA	37,473			
Total		2,283,794	1,982,510	1,470,201	365,941

Table 4. Current contracted marketing project actuals at 2023/24 and forecast to 2026/27

Project code	Project title	2022/24 Actual	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Forecast
MT20600	Marketing retainer	22,887			
MT20600	Marketing incentive	1,464			
NY17519	Nursery industry marketing program	654,992	218,336		
NY23600	Nursery media to promote School of Thumb H1 July-December	140,000			
NY23601	Nursery media to promote School of Thumb H2 January-July	140,000			
NY23602	Nursery media Thinkerbelle (July-October 2024)		90,000		
Total		959,343	308,336		

Financial statements

Financial statements for the R&D levy fund can be seen in Table 5 below, and the marketing levy fund can be seen in Table 6.

View the current and most up-to-date financial statements for the Nursery Fund at the Hort Innovation website [here](#).

Table 5: Nursery R&D levy fund actuals at 2023/24 and forecast to 2026/27 (as at July 1, 2024)

	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Forecast
Opening Balance	661,047	888,099	828,567	200,175
Levies from growers	1,613,668	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Commonwealth funds	1,344,246	1,489,532	2,057,292	1,380,069
Other Income	42,861	10,000	10,500	11,025
Total Income	3,000,775	2,999,532	3,567,792	2,891,094
Project funding ¹	2,283,794	2,063,758	3,081,449	1,927,189
Available for Investment	0	450,000	400,000	400,000
Grower consultation and advice	7,404	25,000	25,000	25,000
Service delivery	397,292	440,306	608,136	407,948
Total matched expenditure	2,688,490	2,979,064	4,114,585	2,760,137
Closing balance	888,099	828,567	200,175	247,899
Federal Government levy collection costs	85,233	80,000	81,600	83,232

Note:

1. Project funding includes committed projects and projects supported by the advisory panel and currently in the process of procurement.

Table 6: Nursery marketing levy fund actuals at 2023/24 and forecast to 2026/27 (as at July 1, 2024)

	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Forecast
Opening Balance	627,792	583,111	278,579	261,553
Levies from growers	1,173,577	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Other Income	23,464	5,000	5,250	5,513
Total Income	1,197,041	1,005,000	1,005,250	1,005,513
Project funding ¹	959,343	326,236	17,900	17,900
Available for Investment	0	650,000	720,000	720,000
Grower consultation and advice	4,730	20,000	20,000	20,000
Service delivery	216,045	223,296	169,876	169,876
Total expenditure	1,180,118	1,219,532	927,776	927,776
Closing balance	583,111	278,579	261,553	240,065
Federal Government levy collection costs	61,604	90,000	94,500	99,225

Note:

1. Project funding includes committed projects and projects supported by the advisory panel and currently in the process of procurement.

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