

Strawberry Fund Annual Investment Plan 2024/25



Proposed investments in 2024/25

A list of proposed R&D investments in the Strawberry Fund in 2024/25 can be found below. Each year, Strawberry industry representatives meet as advisory panels to discuss investment recommendations in line with the Strawberry 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 strawberry R&D advisory panel met on June 18, 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.

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 Strawberry Annual Investment Plan (AIP) 2025/26.

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

Priority	Investment	Outcome	Strategy
1	BerryQuest International 2025	3. Extension and capability	2. Provide opportunity for different levels of engagement between and across industries, across industry members and relevant stakeholders to innovate with, state-based IDOs and other extension initiatives
*	Consumer tracking usage and attitude	4. Business insights	1. Increase industry alignment with quality and brand positioning opportunities driven by consumer insights
*	Generation of data – AgVet grants 2022-23	2. Industry supply, productivity and sustainability	13. Generate residue, efficacy and crop safety data to support applications to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) to gain, maintain or broaden access to priority uses for label registrations and/or minor use permits for crop protection needs
*	Chemical residue report to support Australia's Country Recognition Arrangement (CRA) with Indonesia (2024-2029)	Enabler	Projects that enable and support the delivery of the SIP
*	Impact assessment program FY24-FY26	Enabler	Projects that enable and support the delivery of the SIP

* These projects are foundational investments required to support data generation, evaluation and continuous improvement, and therefore do not require advice.

Current contracted R&D and royalty projects

Current contracted projects in the Strawberry Fund as at July 1, 2024, which are aligned to the respective outcomes and strategies in the Berry SIP, can be seen in Table 2. The current contracted royalty projects can be seen in Table 3. More information about these projects is available on the Hort Innovation website where the projects have a hyperlink.

Table 2. 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
AM21000	Service supply chains II		195,000	65,000	
AM22000	Australian horticultural market access research partnership	300,000	200,000	100,000	
BS16001	Strawberry minor use program	885	2,000	1,000	
BS19000	High health pre-commercial propagation material for Australian strawberry growers	50,220	50,220	50,220	133,920
BS22000	Australian strawberry breeding program	777,120	777,120	777,120	777,120
FF20000	National Fruit Fly Council	6,000	6,000	6,000	10,500
MT17006	Xylella coordinator	10,780			
MT18004	Review of the biosecurity plan for the berry sector			7,200	
MT18020	Facilitating the development of Australian berries	141,897			
MT20004	Joint Berry Export Trade Development	121,546			
MT20007	Regulatory support and response co-ordination	2,083	3,124		
MT21004	Consumer behavioural retail data	4,214	12,732	8,488	10,222
MT21006	Australian Horticulture Statistics Handbook 2021/22 to 2023/24	4,166	7,583		
MT21008	National bee pest surveillance program	18,812	27,875		
MT21010	Economic contribution of Australian horticulture	1,501			

Project code	Project title	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Forecast
MT21015	Horticulture impact assessment program 2020/21 to 2022/23	3,929	3,258		
MT21202	Consumer usage and attitude research program	3,636			
MT22000	Fund Annual Reports 2021/22	1,417			
MT22005	Horticulture trade data 2022-2025	2,260	2,339		
MT22010	Facilitating the development of the Australian berry industries	358,933	179,467	179,467	179,467
MT23000	Chemical Residue Report to Support Australia's Country Recognition Arrangement (CRA) with Indonesia	2,500			
MT23001	Strategic Agrichemical Review Process (SARP) 2023 updates	3,466	3,465		
MT23002	Fund Annual Reports 2022/23	163			
MT23003	Berry advisory mechanism	6,423	12,846	12,846	16,057
MT23004	Multi-industry berry trade development and market access project	59,557	57,364	58,210	59,082
MT23201	Consumer usage and attitude tracking FY23/24	7,687	1,930		
Total		1,889,195	1,542,322	1,265,551	1,186,368

Table 3. Current contracted royalty 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
BS20777	ARC research hub for sustainable crop protection (bioclay)	50,000	50,000		
MT23500	Berry Basket marketing campaign	144,000	96,000		
Total		194,000	146,000		

Financial statements

Financial statements for the strawberry R&D levy fund can be seen in Table 4, and the royalty fund can be seen in Table 5.

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

Table 4: Strawberry 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	40,478	174,415	25,001	25,001
Levies from growers	884,176	750,000	750,000	750,000
Commonwealth funds	1,303,478	992,448	780,976	731,767
Other Income	177,666	100,984	39,086	750
Total Income	2,365,320	1,843,432	1,570,062	1,482,517
Project funding ¹	1,889,195	1,677,161	1,317,659	1,234,004
Available for Investment	-	-	-	-
Grower consultation and advice	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Service delivery	334,393	297,734	234,293	219,530
Total matched expenditure	2,223,588	1,984,896	1,561,952	1,463,535
Closing balance	174,415	25,001	25,001	35,711
Federal Government levy collection costs	7,795	7,951	8,110	8,272

Note:

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

**Table 5. Strawberry royalty 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	1,346,733	1,174,523	1,284,781	1,422,141
Royalties received	4,412	353,400	150,000	150,000
Commonwealth funds	-	-	-	-
Other income	51,618	23,490	25,696	28,443
Total income	56,030	376,890	175,696	178,443
Project funding ¹	194,000	146,000	-	-
Manual transfer to levy fund	-	95,752	38,336	-
Service delivery	34,240	24,880	-	-
Total expenditure	228,240	266,632	38,336	-
Closing balance	1,174,523	1,284,781	1,422,141	1,600,584

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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Any request or enquiry to use this publication should be addressed to:

Communications Manager

Hort Innovation

Level 7, 141 Walker Street

North Sydney NSW 2060

Australia

Email: communications@horticulture.com.au

Phone: 02 8295 2300