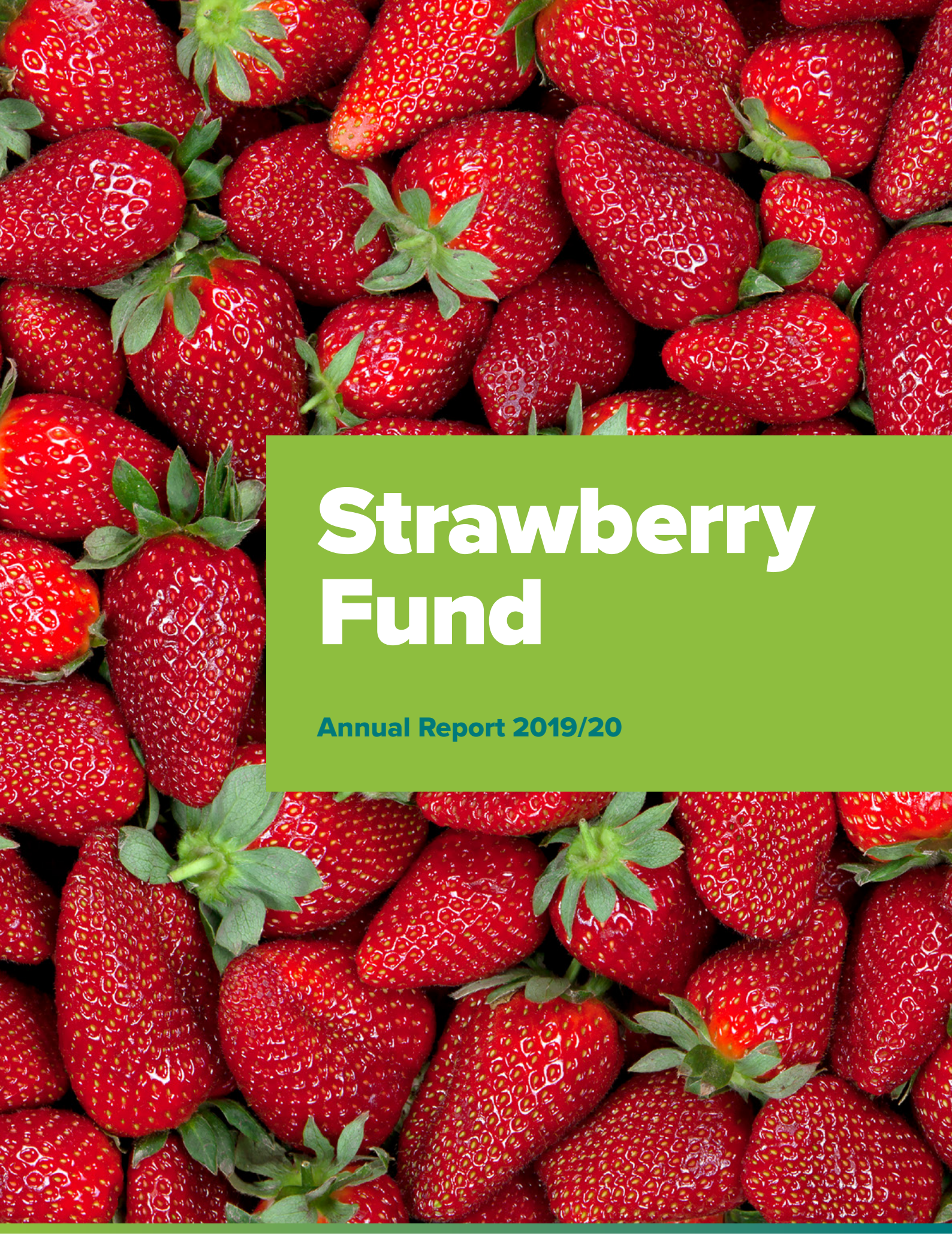


Strawberry Fund

Annual Report 2019/20

Hort Innovation
Strategic levy investment

STRAWBERRY FUND

Contents

Hort Innovation

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

About the year

An intense and unpredictable year, 2019/20 certainly dealt challenges for the world, for Australian horticulture, and for Hort Innovation. There was ongoing drought, a devastating bushfire season, intense floods, the biosecurity threat of fall armyworm and, of course, the global and ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

We encourage you to download a copy of the overarching Hort Innovation Annual Report 2019/20 at www.horticulture.com.au/annual-report-portal to better understand Hort Innovation's responses to these events, and how the company was able to change its plans and priorities to best serve the sector.

Through it all, though, activity in the Hort Innovation Strawberry Fund remained strong. While some activities inevitably changed under COVID-19, it was still a solid year of investment, with close to $1.8 million invested in R&D for the industry, including into several new projects. Read on for an overview of what was delivered.

2019/20 Strawberry Fund snapshot

$1.79M

invested in R&D

30

active R&D investments

$834,000

in levies collected

by the government and passed on to Hort Innovation for investment

Did you know?

75,000 tonnes

Strawberry production had an average of 75,000 tonnes per year in the five years to 2018/19, with a peak of 93,545 tonnes in 2017/18

5%

Around five per cent of Australia's strawberries are exported, increasing from 1467 tonnes in 2013/14 to 3685 tonnes in 2018/19

4

Strawberry production mainly occurs in four key states: Queensland, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia

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, for use by individual industries and the wider sector. The 2018/19 edition was released in early 2020 and, for the first time, features an interactive dashboard format for desktop users. See www.horticulture.com.au/horticulture-statistics-handbook.

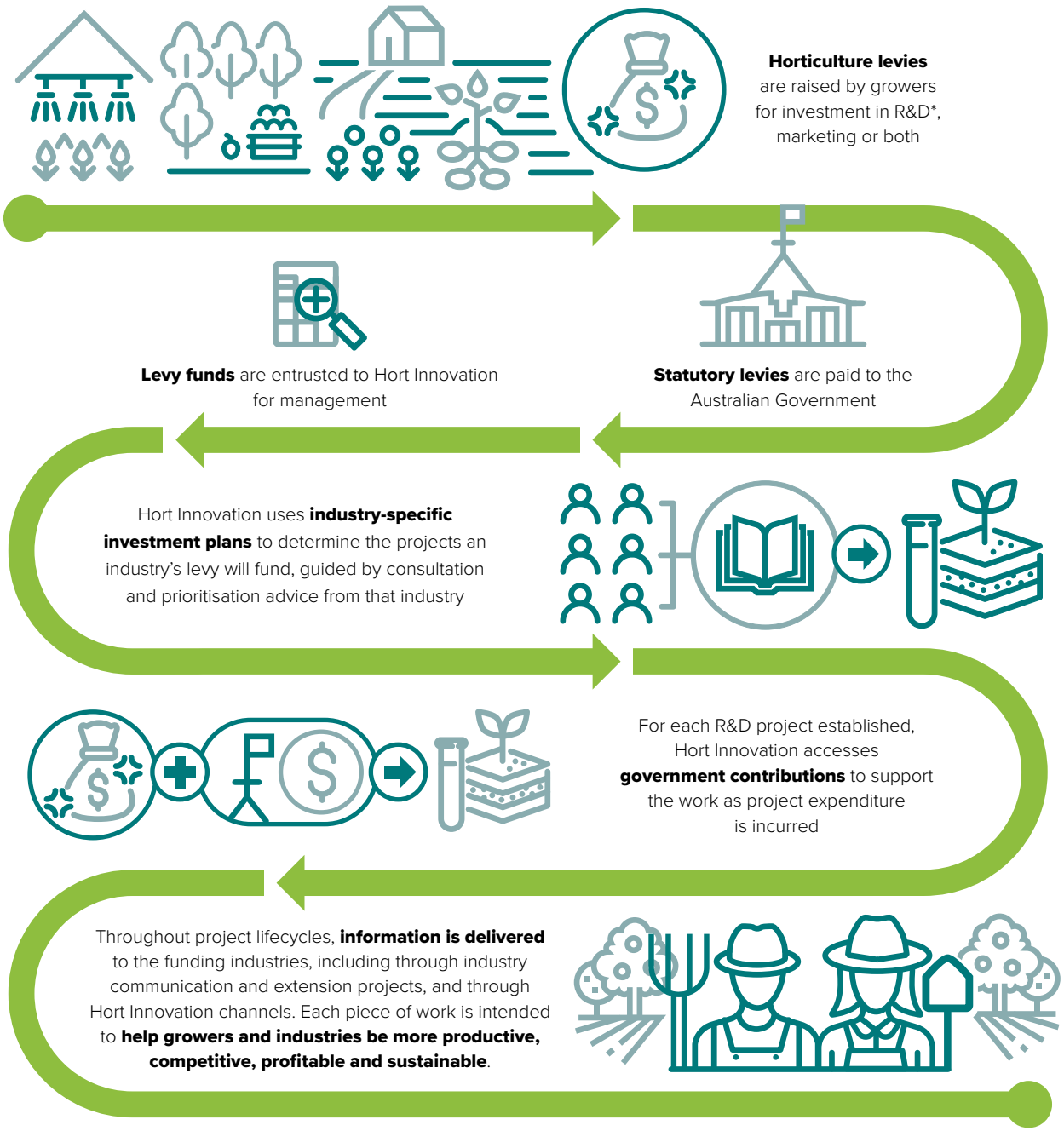
Just some of the things delivered for you during the year:

- ✓ **Continued breeding and evaluation work for improved strawberry varieties**, with varieties released to date having strong uptake with growers and generating royalties for reinvestment in industry programs – read more at www.bit.ly/strawberry-breeding
- ✓ **A new, multi-industry communication and extension program for the berry industries**, delivering the *Australian Berry Journal*, *The Burst* e-newsletter, the www.berries.net.au website, webinars and more (p7)
- ✓ **Information and data to assist through COVID-19**, including the new *Hort Innovation Insights* podcast (www.horticulture.com.au/webinars) and regular consumer attitude and behaviour information (www.horticulture.com.au/impact-monitor)*
- ✓ **The Good Mood Food** across-horticulture marketing campaign to support industries through the effects of recent times (www.horticulture.com.au/the-good-mood-food)*
- ✓ **Preparation support for fall armyworm**, including emergency minor use permits and an educational podcast series, www.bit.ly/armyworm-podcast*
- ✓ **The strawberry Harvest to Home dashboard** providing regular household purchase data and insight reporting, at www.harvesttohome.net.au
- ✓ **A host of biosecurity initiatives** to protect the strawberry industry from potential threats, such as spotted wing drosophila (see from p8)
- ✓ **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*
- ✓ **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 2019/20 for more*

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

Making investments in 2019/20

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



* Encapsulating extension and international trade

To learn more about funding specific to the Hort Innovation Strawberry Fund, visit www.horticulture.com.au/strawberry. 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 reserves.

Investment planning and performance

During 2019/20, Hort Innovation continued to track investment expenditure against the Strawberry Strategic Investment Plan, while looking towards new developments in 2021. Access an at-a-glance copy of the current investment plan at www.bit.ly/strawberry-plan.

A performance analysis is coming

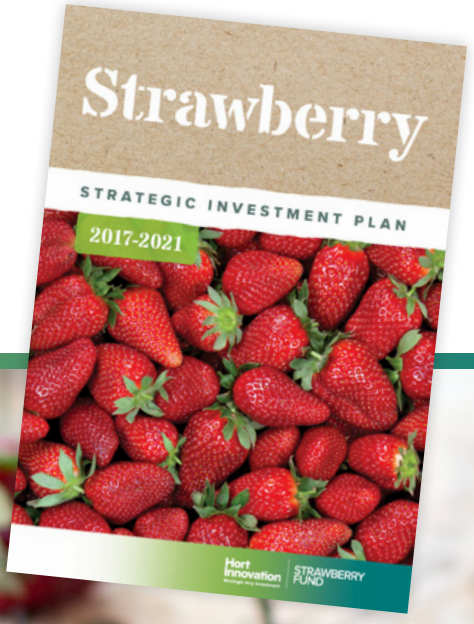
The industry's investment plan outlines key goals and outcomes for levy investment. With the plan due for renewal in 2021, Hort Innovation is undertaking a performance analysis to see how the industry has progressed against the current plan's ambitions. This will also help guide ongoing priorities for investment. Look for information to be published at www.horticulture.com.au/strawberry in 2021.

See how your levy investments align to the industry's current plan

You can see how investment expenditure in the Hort Innovation Strawberry Fund aligns to the industry's current strategic investment plan with the interactive analysis information available from www.bit.ly/strawberry-investment. The analysis shows the allocation of funding against each of the strawberry plan's outcomes, and gives an indication of the projects that are aligned to each outcome.

New ways of obtaining advice and setting priorities

In 2020/21, Hort Innovation will be implementing new ways of obtaining advice and setting priorities for industry investments. Renewed industry investment plans, plus new yearly (or as needed) program plans and new ways of consulting more broadly will mean more efficient investment and better outcomes for industry. Watch this space.



R&D project list 2019/20

NEW INVESTMENTS IN 2019/20	
BS19000	High health pre-commercial propagation material for Australian strawberry growers
LP15001	Masterclass in Horticultural Business
MT18020	Facilitating the development of the Australian berry industries
MT19003	Parasitoids for the management of fruit flies in Australia
MT19005	Horticulture trade data
MT19008	Strategic Agrichemical Review Process (SARP) updates
MT19009	BerryQuest International 2021
ST19018	Xylella insect vectors

ONGOING INVESTMENTS IN 2019/20	
BS15005	Improved management of charcoal rot of strawberry
BS16001	Strawberry industry minor use program
BS17000	National strawberry varietal improvement program
AM17001	Developing a national systems approach for meeting biosecurity requirements to access key Asian markets
FF18003	SITplus: Port Augusta Qfly SIT factory pilot operation
MT14052	Essential market access data packages
MT16005	Enhanced National Bee Pest Surveillance Program
MT17006	Improving preparedness of the Australian horticultural sector to the threat potentially posed by *Xylella fastidiosa* (a severe biosecurity risk)
MT17006	Xylella coordinator

ONGOING INVESTMENTS IN 2019/20 *(continued)*	
MT17015	Consumer behavioural and retail data for fresh produce
MT18004	Review of the biosecurity plan for the berry sector
MT18010	Developing IPM-compatible controls for spotted winged drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*)
MT18010	Exploring IPM-compatible methods for spotted winged drosophila in berry crops
MT18011	Ex-post impact assessment*
ST16006	Generation of residue, efficacy and crop safety data for pesticide applications in horticulture crops 2017
ST17000	Generation of data for pesticide applications in horticulture crops 2018

* This multi-industry project was a key monitoring and evaluation investment during 2019/20 – we encourage you to find the full details at www.horticulture.com.au/mt18011

INVESTMENTS COMPLETED IN 2019/20	
BS15002	Facilitating the development of the Australian strawberry industry – national oversight and communications
BS15003	Facilitating the development of the Australian strawberry industry – sub-tropical regional delivery
BS15004	Facilitating the development of the Australian strawberry industry – temperate regional delivery
MT13059	SITplus: Developing and optimising production of a male-only, temperature-sensitive-lethal, strain of Qfly, *B. tryoni*
MT17005	Improving the biosecurity preparedness of Australian horticulture for the exotic spotted wing drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*)
ST16008	AgVet collaborative forum

R&D report

Take a closer look at some of the key investments in the Hort Innovation Strawberry Fund during 2019/20. You can also visit www.horticulture.com.au/strawberry at any time to access information on new, ongoing and completed projects, and to download resources produced by levy investments, such as fact sheets and guides.

High health pre-commercial propagation material for Australian strawberry growers (BS19000)

NEW IN 2019/20

Key research provider: Victorian Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

This investment is producing healthy propagation material for the pre-commercial temperate, sub-tropical and Mediterranean strawberry varieties being developed through the national breeding program and varietal improvement program, described on below. Together, these projects are ensuring that the Australian strawberry industry has access to improved, locally adapted varieties into the future, continuing the development and commercial release of superior varieties for targeted environments.

Project BS19000 specifically undertakes vigorous testing for a range of bacterial, fungal and viral pathogens, as well as heat treatment for pathogen eradication. High-health pathogen-tested strawberry varieties are critical to industry as they reduce the economic impact of pests and diseases on runner and fruit production.

National strawberry varietal improvement program (BS17000)

Key research provider: The Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Ongoing through 2019/20, this is the national strawberry breeding, evaluation and release program.

It continues to develop improved varieties for Australia's temperate, subtropical and Mediterranean climates – and to suit the taste buds of Australian consumers.

There have been 12 new varieties commercialised in recent years, proving popular with both growers and shoppers. In 2019/20, more than 80 per cent of strawberry plants grown commercially in Queensland were varieties developed by the program. And in 2020/21, two new temperate varieties are expected to be released.

Read more about the breeding work and its success to date at www.bit.ly/strawberry-breeding.

Facilitating the development of the Australian berry industries (MT18020)

NEW IN 2019/20

Key research provider: Berries Australia

Beginning in 2019, this multi-industry investment supports Australian berry growers in adopting improved practices on-farm and in keeping up to date with the latest industry news, information, resources and technologies.

The project delivers a nationally coordinated but locally implemented program which employs several industry development officers to provide specialist skills and knowledge.

Extension and communication channels delivered include, but aren't limited to:

- The *Australian Berry Journal* quarterly magazine, available from www.berries.net.au/home/news/abjournal
- The industry's monthly newsletter, which has information tailored to blueberries and other berry crops, as well as the latest across-industry R&D news – if you don't receive it already, sign up at www.berries.net.au/subscribe
- The Berries Australia website, www.berries.net.au, which features industry news, information and resources for growers
- Fact sheets and case studies, as needed

Continued >>

- Berry plant protection guides for each crop
- Workshops across the country
- Webinars for growers.

This work takes over from the strawberry industry's earlier industry development program, with its three projects coming to an end in 2019/20: national project ***Facilitating the development of the Australian strawberry industry – national oversight and communications*** **(BS15002)** and regional projects ***Facilitating the development of the Australian strawberry industry – sub-tropical regional delivery*** **(BS15003)** and ***Facilitating the development of the Australian strawberry industry – temperate regional delivery*** **(BS15004)**. A summary of this collaborative program's work, and the resources ot produced for growers, can be found at www.bit.ly/strawberry-development.

BerryQuest International 2021 (MT19009)

NEW IN 2019/20

Key research provider: Berries Australia

This investment was established to support the running of BerryQuest International 2021, which was to be held in Queensland in July 2021. However, due to the global pandemic, the event has been postponed to 2022. When it does go ahead, it will be an opportunity for berry industry participants to engage with the outcomes of their levy investments as well as hear from international experts and learn from field visits. It will be a joint initiative across the berry category and have a focus on networking, connecting growers with supply chain stakeholders, researchers and industry experts to facilitate knowledge transfer on key issues such as biosecurity, trade, market development, marketing and adoption of R&D outcomes.

Masterclass in Horticultural Business (LP15001)

NEW IN 2019/20

HORT FRONTIERS

Key research providers: University of Tasmania in partnership with Lincoln University and Wageningen Research Academy

The Masterclass in Horticultural Business course was developed under the Hort Frontiers Leadership Fund and is aimed at fostering new innovators and leaders for the Australian horticulture industry. Best described as a 'mini MBA', it's a nine-month course where participants develop their business skills and build their own business plans for the future. The course is delivered predominantly online, with several face-to-face sessions and field trips to some of Australia's savviest horticulture outfits.

Strawberry levy has been co-invested into the Masterclass investment for the first time in 2019/20, to support a scholarship for an industry levy-payer in the 2020 course.

Improving the biosecurity preparedness of Australian horticulture for the exotic spotted wing drosophila (Drosophila suzukii) (MT17005)

NOW COMPLETE

Key research provider: Plant Health Australia

Running from 2018 to 2020, this multi-industry investment improved awareness of the risks posed by spotted wing drosophila, which attacks a range of soft-skinned fruit, as well as enhanced Australia's capacity to detect and respond to any incursions of the pest.

Most importantly, this project developed a framework for modelling spotted wing drosophila establishment and movement throughout Australian regions, allowing for a comprehensive preparedness plan to be developed for a swift response in the event of an incursion. The plan includes an extensive list of recommendations for industry, including relating to surveillance, control techniques, engagement and awareness, and diagnostics.

The project also worked to build knowledge and capacity around appropriate surveillance and management tools and strategies within the growing industries, government and among other relevant stakeholders. It produced a range of materials for growers, including identification information, a fact sheet on spotted wing drosophila hosts, and a webinar detailing preparedness for the pest.

Full details and links to the project's resources – and final research report – can be found at www.bit.ly/mt17005.

Developing IPM-compatible controls for spotted winged drosophila (MT18010)

Key research provider: IPM Technologies

Beginning in April 2019, this investment is developing and evaluating control measures against spotted wing drosophila, which are compatible with integrated crop management (IPM) approaches used in berry crops.

Control measures used overseas include regular use of insecticides that aren't IPM compatible – and considering IPM is well-adopted in Australian berry crop production, the use of such insecticides here could lead to severe flares of other issues, such as western flower thrips and two-spotted mite.

With this in mind, this project is preparing and testing IPM-compatible control measures against spotted wing drosophila overseas, so that sustainable long-term management in Australia will be possible should the pest arrive on our shores.

There is also a sister project to this investment, ***Exploring IPM-compatible methods for spotted winged drosophila in berry crops*** **(MT18010)**, which is being delivered by cesar. This component of the work involves desktop research that will put an Australian focus on existing spotted wing drosophila research; review of trial site results; and work to extend research findings. Communicating information on spotted wing drosophila and likely control measures (IPM-safe and otherwise) to berry growers and advisors will be key to the program.

Xylella insect vectors (ST19018)

NEW IN 2019/20

Key research provider: Wine Australia

This project is a collaboration between Hort Innovation and Wine Australia to help safeguard Australia against the potentially catastrophic *Xylella fastidiosa*. This exotic bacteria impedes the movement of rising sap in plants and, were it to enter the country, it could threaten more than 350 commercial, ornamental and native plant species.

The project team is identifying and assessing insects in Australia that could potentially carry and transfer the bacteria, should it arrive on our shores. Developing an understanding of these potential insect vectors – including their feeding behaviour, population dynamics and range – will build essential knowledge to help in how xylella could be detected and contained in Australia.

The work is a partnership through the Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative (PBRI), a collaboration between Australia's seven plant-focused Rural RDCs, Plant Health Australia, the Department of Agriculture and other contributors, to coordinate plant biosecurity RD&E funding and efforts. You can learn more at www.pbri.com.au.

Xylella coordinator (MT17006)

Key research provider: Wine Australia

This multi-industry and multi-sector investment supports the role and activities of a national coordinator as part of a three year program to improve Australia's readiness for any potential incursion of Xylella fastidiosa. Like the project described in the previous project overview, this is another joint initiative between Hort Innovation and Wine Australia, through the PRBI.

Improving preparedness of the Australian horticultural sector to the threat potentially posed by Xylella fastidiosa (a severe biosecurity risk) (MT17006)

Key research provider: The Victorian Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

Adding to the PBRI's xylella work, this multi-industry investment will allow Australia to adopt world's best practice methods for detecting and identifying strains of the *Xylella fastidiosa* bacteria, should it come to our shores. As well as developing state-of-the-art diagnostic tools, technologies and protocols to screen plant material entering the country and to support active surveillance programs, it will provide associated training to technical staff in diagnostic laboratories.

The project's work will ultimately allow for quick and effective detection of what is considered to be the number one plant biosecurity threat to Australia and New Zealand, to facilitate a swift and sure response.

Enhanced National Bee Pest Surveillance Program (MT16005)

HORT FRONTIERS

Key research provider: Plant Health Australia

This investment is delivering a nationally coordinated bee-pest surveillance program to help safeguard honey-bee and pollinator-dependent industries in Australia. It builds upon previous industry levy-funded investment, and includes upgrading sentinel hive arrays, strengthening relationships with surveillance operators, the introduction of new elements such as Asian hornet screening and more. The surveillance is designed to enable the early detection of high-priority pest incursions that can impact on honey bees, providing the best opportunity for successful pest eradication.

The strawberry industry is one of several contributors to the work, and the program is part of the Hort Frontiers Pollination Fund (www.horticulture.com.au/hort-frontiers).

Parasitoids for the management of fruit flies in Australia (MT19003)

NEW IN 2019/20

Key research provider: The Victorian Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

Involving funding from a range of industries, this investment is helping evaluate the use of parasitoid wasps in the potential management of fruit flies. The use of natural enemies such as parasitoids against insect pests is a core component in sustainable pest control and, if successful, will provide horticulture industries with another method to use for fruit fly management.

The research is being conducted through two complementary components – firstly by improving current knowledge of natural fruit fly parasitoid distribution in Queensland and northern New South Wales, and secondly by trialling a new mass rearing and release strategy for the southern states.

SITplus: Port Augusta Qfly SIT factory pilot operation (FF18003)

HORT FRONTIERS

Key research provider: University of Western Sydney, with Primary Industries and Regions South Australia (PIRSA)

A purpose-built sterile Queensland fruit fly facility was established in Port Augusta, South Australia under earlier work in the Hort Frontiers Fruit Fly Fund and broader SITplus initiative. With sterile insect technology (SIT) a promising control method for Queensland fruit fly, the facility is a state-of-the-art factory for the mass-rearing of sterile flies.

This investment is continuing support for the pilot operation of the facility, allowing delivery of sterile flies to an associated pilot release project. It is also delivering further research to optimise the SIT approach and improve the production of healthy and high-performing sterile fruit flies. The work is being funded through co-investment from a range of partners, funding from the Australian Government, and some contributions from levy industries, including through the Hort Innovation Strawberry Fund.

For more on the facility, SITplus program and Hort Frontiers Fruit Fly Fund, visit www.horticulture.com.au/hort-frontiers.

SITplus: Developing and optimising production of a male-only, temperature-sensitive-lethal, strain of Qfly, B. tryoni (MT13059)

NOW COMPLETE

HORT FRONTIERS

Key research provider: South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI)

This investment has successfully demonstrated a method to develop a 'temperature-sensitive lethal, male-selecting' strain of Queensland fruit fly. Put simply, its work will allow for male-only, sterile fruit flies to be bred in large numbers as part of the SITplus initiative, to optimise the release of sterile flies as part of a SIT-aided, area wide management approach to controlling the pest. Released into specific sites in south-eastern Australia, the sterile flies will come to outnumber the wild male population and, by mating with wild females – and limiting the opportunity for wild males to do so – they are intended to lead to the collapse of wild Queensland fruit fly populations.

Levies from several horticulture industries were involved in the project which, as a SITplus initiative, was part of the Hort Frontiers Fruit Fly Fund.

Developing a national systems approach for meeting biosecurity requirements to access key Asian markets (AM17001)

HORT FRONTIERS

Key research provider: Queensland Eco-sciences Precinct

Most horticultural trade relies on demonstrating that the commodity either comes from an area that is free of pests and diseases (area freedom), or involves the application of an agreed, stringent end-point treatment. This project is a collaboration between industry, researchers and regulators to help Australian horticulture enterprises realise market opportunities in Australia and Asia by developing a quantitative 'systems approach' that will be acceptable to regulators. It will also be providing the supporting information necessary to help industries evaluate and adopt systems approaches.

Systems approaches integrate those pre- and post-harvest practices used in production, harvest, packing and distribution of a commodity which cumulatively meet requirements for quarantine security. The systems approach used in each region will set safeguards and mitigation measures which individually and cumulatively provide a reduction in plant pest risk.

Review of the biosecurity plan for the berry sector (MT18004)

Key research provider: Plant Health Australia

This five-year investment is reviewing existing biosecurity priorities, plans and needs for both the strawberry and raspberry and blackberry industries, and will ultimately deliver a cohesive biosecurity plan for the Australian berry sector. Like the existing individual industry plans, the berry sector plan will be a top-level document that identifies high-priority endemic and exotic pests, diseases and weeds, along with the risk mitigation activities required to reduce their biosecurity threat, plus surveillance and diagnostic activities. It will provide a strategic framework for industry and government to work together to improve preparedness for and response to these potential threats.

The current strawberry biosecurity plan is available from Plant Health Australia at www.planthealthaustralia.com.au/strawberries.

Improved management of charcoal rot of strawberry (BS15005)

Key research provider: The Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Ongoing through 2019/20, this project is tasked with helping tackle charcoal rot, reducing its occurrence and related losses and costs for the Australian strawberry industry. It is responsible for investigating improved management approaches including chemical, biological and cultural options for the disease, which is caused by the fungus *Macrophomina phaseolina* and has symptoms including crown and root rot, plant wilting and yellowing of leaves (chlorosis).

Consumer behavioural and retail data for fresh produce (MT17015)

Key research provider: Nielsen

This multi-industry investment provides regular consumer behaviour data and insight reporting to a range of industries, through the Harvest to Home platform (www.harvesttohome.net.au).

The platform has a dedicated dashboard for strawberries, making data and reporting easily accessible for industry participants. The information is intended to assist growers and supply chain partners in decision-making for their businesses and, for the wider industry, the data and insights are available to support strategic activities.

Strawberry industry minor use program (BS16001)

Key research provider: Hort Innovation

Through this project, levy funds and Australian Government contributions are used to submit renewals and applications for minor use permits for the strawberry industry as required. These submissions are prepared and submitted to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

For more on minor use permits, including a list of permits, see p13.

All current minor use permits for the industry are searchable at portal.apvma.gov.au/permits. Permit updates are also circulated in Hort Innovation's *Growing Innovation* e-newsletter, which you can sign up for at www.horticulture.com.au/sign-up.

Data generation investments (ST17000 and ST16006)

Key research providers: Eurofins and Peracto

The generation of pesticide residue, efficacy and crop safety data is required to support label registration and minor use permit applications made to the APVMA which, when approved, provide access to safe and effective chemicals for the management of pests, weeds and diseases.

These multi-industry projects continue to generate the data needed to support a range of label registrations and minor use permit applications and renewals across a variety of horticulture crops, including strawberries. They include ***Generation of data for pesticide applications in horticulture crops 2018*** **(ST17000)** and ***Generation of residue, efficacy and crop safety data for pesticide applications in horticulture crops 2017*** **(ST16006)**, both of which are supported by grant funding secured by Hort Innovation through the Australian Government's Access to Industry Priority Uses of AgVet Chemicals program.

Strategic Agrichemical Review Process (SARP) updates (MT19008)

NEW IN 2019/20

Key research provider: AGK Services

This short investment is facilitating a 2020 Strategic Agrichemical Review Process (SARP) for several horticulture industries, including the strawberry industry. Providing an updated view of current priorities and gaps regarding pest, disease and weed control, the completed strawberry SARP report will assist in directing ongoing efforts to ensure the availability of and access to effective chemical controls. This may relate to pursuing chemical registrations with agrichemical companies, or minor use permits.

Minor use permits

The Hort Innovation Strawberry 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 for the management of pests, weeds and diseases.

For full details on these activities and links to relevant information, visit www.bit.ly/minor-use-strawberry.

Permits in 2019/20

During the 2019/20 financial year, a successful renewal for PER14577 was prepared by Hort Innovation and submitted to the APVMA, facilitated through the ***Strawberry industry minor use program*** **(BS16001)**. Renewals for permits PER80064 and PER13331 were also submitted, and issued in early 2020/21.

Meanwhile, a successful new permit, PER87797, was issued during 2019/20 with the application submitted through the industry minor use program in the previous financial year.

Separately, fall armyworm – an incredibly destructive exotic pest – was detected on Australian shores for the first time in 2020. To support readiness and protect the horticulture sector, Hort Innovation was involved in securing emergency permits for crop protection chemicals, with all horticulture industries having at least one effective option available to them by the end of 2019/20. For the strawberry industry, PER89241, PER89278, PER89353, PER89293, PER89263 and PER89870 were obtained for this reason.

Details for these and all other permits can be found in the following table.

Current permits

Below is a list of minor use permits for the strawberry industry, current as of 21 September 2020.

PERMIT ID	DESCRIPTION	DATE ISSUED	EXPIRY DATE	PERMIT HOLDER
PER12486 Version 5	Trichlorfon / Specified berry fruit / Fruit fly	06-Oct-11	31-May-21	Australian Blueberry Growers' Association C/Hort Innovation
PER87408	Spinetoram (Success NEO) / Strawberries, rubus and rubus hybrids and blueberries / Fruit fly (suppression only) (all states)	15-Apr-19	30-Apr-24	Hort Innovation
PER80064 Version 3	Phosphorous acid / Strawberries / Crown rot (*Phytophthora* spp.)	01-Nov-14	31-Oct-25	Hort Innovation
PER13331 Version 3	Pyriproxyfen (Admiral) / Strawberries / Greenhouse and silverleaf whitefly	08-May-12	31-Aug-25	Hort Innovation
PER13542 Version 2	Maldison / Strawberries / Rutherglen bug	01-Jul-12	30-Jun-22	Strawberries Australia Inc (SAI) C/Hort Innovation
PER13697 Version 2	Metalaxyl-M (Ridomil Gold 480SL) and phosphorous acid / Strawberry runners / Root and crown rot (*Phytophthora cactorum*)	28-Aug-12	30-Sep-22	SAI C/Hort Innovation
PER14483 Version 2	Pyraclostrobin (Cabrio fungicide) / Strawberry runners (non-fruiting) / Crown or petiole rot	29-Oct-13	30-Sep-23	SAI C/Hort Innovation
PER14192 Version 2	Indoxacarb (Avatar) / Strawberries / Whitefringed weevil and garden weevil	24-Dec-13	30-Sep-23	SAI C/Hort Innovation
PER14307 Version 2	Zinc phosphide (Rattoff) / Strawberries / Mice	05-May-14	31-Jan-22	SAI C/Hort Innovation
PER14577 Version 2	Quinoxyfen (Legend) / Strawberry runner production / Powdery mildew	23-May-14	31-Dec-20	Hort Innovation
PER80543	Bupirimate (Nimrod fungicide) / Strawberry runner production only / Powdery mildew	11-Oct-15	31-Aug-20	SAI C/Hort Innovation
PER81745 Version 2	Chlorpyrifos (Suscon Green and Suscon Blue soil insecticide) / Strawberries / Scarab beetles	21-Oct-15	30-Sep-23	Hort Innovation
PER82598	Flonicamid (Mainman) / Strawberries (field and protected cropping) / Aphids, whiteflies and green mirid (all states)	31-Mar-17	30-Nov-21	SAI C/Hort Innovation

Continued >>

PERMIT ID	DESCRIPTION	DATE ISSUED	EXPIRY DATE	PERMIT HOLDER
PER83871	Fluazinam (Gem fungicide) / Strawberry runner production / Leaf blotch	19-May-17	30-Jun-22	SAI C/Hort Innovation
PER83397 Version 2	Selontra Soft Bait rodenticide (Cholecalciferol) / Strawberries / Rats and mice	20-Apr-17	28-Feb-22	BASF
PER81810	Pymetrozine (Chess) / Strawberries (protected cropping) / Aphids (TAS only)	15-Apr-16	30-Apr-21	Costa Exchange
PER87797	Afidopyropen (Versys) / Strawberries (field and protected) / Aphids: green peach aphid, black peach aphid, melon aphid and strawberry aphid	04-Sep-19	30-Sep-24	Hort Innovation
PER89263	Emamectin (Proclaim Opti Insecticide) / Strawberries / Fall armyworm	10-Mar-20	31-Mar-23	Hort Innovation
PER89278	Indoxacarb (Avatar Insecticide) / Strawberries / Fall armyworm	13-Mar-20	31-Mar-23	Hort Innovation
PER89293	Methomyl / Strawberries / Fall armyworm	10-Apr-20	30-Apr-23	Hort Innovation
PER89241	Spinetoram / Berry fruit / Fall armyworm	06-Mar-20	31-Mar-23	Hort Innovation
PER89353 Version 2	Chlorantraniliprole (Altacor Hort Insecticide / Coragen) / Fruit: Strawberries and rubus spp. (field and protected) / Fall armyworm	05-May-20	31-May-23	Hort Innovation
PER89870	Spinosad (Entrust Organic) / Various including fruit / Fall armyworm	21-Jul-20	31-Jul-23	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. 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.

Financial statement

Financial operating statement 2019/20

	R&D ($)	TOTAL ($)
	2019/20 July – June	2019/20 July – June
OPENING BALANCE	**1,942,378**	**1,942,378**
Levies from growers (net of collection costs)	834,330	834,330
Australian Government money	1,039,785	1,039,785
Other income*	270,726	270,726
TOTAL INCOME	**2,144,841**	**2,144,841**
Project funding	1,790,798	1,790,798
Consultation with and advice from growers	411	411
Service delivery – base	80,961	80,961
Service delivery – shared	119,900	119,900
Service delivery – fund specific	87,500	87,500
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**2,079,570**	**2,079,570**
Levy contribution to across-industry activity	–	–
CLOSING BALANCE	**2,007,649**	**2,007,649**
Levy collection costs	8,017	8,017

* Interest, royalties

BONUS ACTIVITY: THE GOOD MOOD FOOD

In 2019/20, Hort Innovation created The Good Mood Food campaign to deliver an immediate and enduring behaviour-change message to motivate more Australians to eat more fruit, vegetables and nuts.

With the central message that these Aussie horticulture products are natural mood boosters, the campaign was developed to support the sector through the impacts of recent challenges including bushfires, drought, floods and of course COVID-19 – the effects of which continue to be felt in consumer spending and purchasing behaviour.

Initially running between May and November 2020, The Good Mood Food has been seen across the country on TV; in newspapers; on radio and music streaming services; online (including on YouTube and TV catch-up services); on social media; and via retail partnerships and advertising screens near supermarkets.

In July, 56 per cent of surveyed consumers said The Good Mood Food had positively influenced their shopping habits, and by the end of campaign's run, 98 per cent of all Australians were expected to be reached.

Learn more at www.horticulture.com.au/the-good-mood-food.

The projects in this report have been funded by Hort Innovation using sources including the strawberry levy, Australian Government contributions and, in some instances, co-contributions from a variety of sources.

Hort Innovation

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