

Papaya Strategic Investment Advisory Panel meeting summary

Date: 17 November 2017

Location: DAFF Q, Cairns

Next Meeting: 20 April 2018

Attendance:

Gerard Kath

Daniel Mackay

Joe Zappala

Yan Dizcbalis

Eoin Wallis – Chair

Brad Mills – Hort Innovation

Miriam O'Brien – Minute Taker

Paul Fagg – Grower Observer

Mark McLaughlin – Grower Observer

Amanda Arbuckle – Grower Observer

Lynton Vawdry – DAFFQ Presenter

Paul Campbell – DAFFQ Presenter (Telcon)

Megan Woodward – Cox Inall Presenter

Penny Measham – Hort Innovation

Warwick Scherf – Hort Innovation

Vino Rajandran – Hort Innovation (Telcon)

Overview

The purpose of this meeting was to:

1. Review and prioritise the objectives, strategies and actions identified in the draft Strategic Investment Plan (SIP)
2. Assess project concepts received and develop the scope of key investment priorities
3. Review/ prioritise papaya Sticky Disease R&D investment priorities.

An update was provided on a range of matters including the upcoming review of Hort Innovation by the Australian Government (occurs every four years) as well as improvements in transparency of operations including further cost allocation breakdowns in industry financial reports.

The Constitution change motions voted on at the Hort Innovation AGM on 24 November 2017 were also discussed.

Hort Innovation led a discussion where the SIAP reviewed the current SIP and identified gaps in current investments under the SIP's various strategies as well as prioritising the strategies for future investments.

Cox Inall Communications led a discussion on the communications program and sought feedback.

Mr Vawdry (DAFFQ) gave an update on Papaya Sticky Disease including a summary of the existing gaps in knowledge which includes:

- Disease distribution, incidence and severity
- Disease-free seed protocol
- Recognition of early symptoms
- Vector transmission, farming practices. Mapping the disease distribution on-farm
- Alternative hosts
- Are other viruses involved
- Biosecurity protection at borders.

Anyone seeking further information on Hort Innovation's papaya R&D investments should note that a full list of projects, together with an overview of the program financials are available on the papaya webpage of the Hort Innovation website.

Next steps

The SIAP recommended that a number of priority investment concepts into the management of Papaya Sticky Disease be developed for potential tender and future investment. Further review of other investment concepts will be discussed at the next SIAP meeting.

Contact

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