

Processed Potato industry Strategic Investment Advisory Panel Meeting Summary

Date: 6 Mar 2017

Attendance:

Whole meeting - Anne Ramsay, Peter Hardman, Brett Pemberton, Josh Opas, Allan Smith, Angus Galloway, Michael Hicks, (SIAP members), Cath Botta (Chair) and Christian Patterson (Hort Innovation)

Present for the part of the day – Greg Murdoch, Anthony Kachenko, Brenda Kranz, Peter Whittle, Ben Callaghan & Bianca Cairns (Hort Innovation). Nigel Crump (ViCSPA). Adrian Dahlenburg (ARRIS). Jessica Lye & Shaun Lindhe (AUSVEG).

Apologies: Tony Gietzel, Frank Mulcahy & Paul McBeth

Location: Hort Innovation Sydney Offices

Next Meeting: Teleconference within 4 weeks.

Face-to-face (within 4 months)

Overview

The processed potato Strategic Investment Advisory Panel (SIAP) convened a meeting at Horticulture Innovation's Sydney offices. This was our first meeting with the new Chair, Cath Botta.

Given the recent possible incursion of the Tomato Potato Psyllid (TPP) in Western Australia this and the fresh potato SIAP meeting was changed to affect a joint component the following day on Tuesday March 7, 2017.

The processed potato meeting held a teleconference with Dr Jessica Lye from AUSVEG giving an update on the current situation on the TPP issue.

Hort Innovation has used first response funding to engage a key researcher from Plant & Food Research NZ to deliver possible responses to the incursion in regards to monitoring and control of TPP, as well as information on Integrated Pest Management and long term management planning.

The SIAP spent a considerable amount of time reviewing a number of possible actions on the TPP issue with a view to sharing these suggestions with the fresh potato SIAP the following day for possible development and investment opportunities.

There were also two external presentations to the SIAP. The first was from ARRIS on the current project PT15002 with Dr Nigel Crump discussing a possible management plan for the potato varietal collection held at ViCSPA.

There was a brief update on the final version of the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and this was given a broad approval from the panel. Anyone wishing to comment on the plan should contact Christian Patterson at Hort Innovation on the details below.

Finally, the panel was provided with an overview of the existing R&D investment program (all current projects) and the financial position of the program. Further details of the investment program will be provided at the next panel meeting. Discussions also took place in relation to the process of commissioning projects and the involvement of growers and panel members throughout this process.

This SIAP identified a need also in reviewing the new concepts which had been submitted to Hort Innovation through the Concept portal as well as directly to the Relationship Manager, Christian Patterson.

With the time taken to cover the TPP issue it was decided the next meeting would be a teleconference in the next 4 weeks to go through and review these concepts for advice to potentially progress further.

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

Next steps

The SIAP will meet via teleconference to go through newly submitted ideas and concepts. The next face to face meeting is still to be determined but will be held within the next 4 months.

Contact

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