

Raspberry & Blackberry Interim Investment Advisory Panel meeting summary

Date: 19 April 2016

Location: Melbourne

Next Meeting: September 2016

Attendance: Gary Wright, Richard McGruddy, Phil Rowe, Frank Caltieri, Andrew Terry, Nick Hansen, Kate Sutherland, Bradley Mills, Bianca Cairns, Gustavo Soares, Jeff Matthews

Overview

Hort Innovation provided an induction for panel members outlining the objectives, governance and scope of operation of the panel. An overview of the Hort Innovation funding model, innovation process and procurement framework was also provided.

The panel also discussed other key agenda items including:

1. Minor use permits priorities - Some minor use data generation work was to be contracted for Azoxystrobin, Bifenthrin and Metalaxyl-Mancozeb minor use permits. Also, the top five priorities for pest & disease management were discussed where there is a current / likely future gap in chemicals available for control. These priorities were to be utilised in an Agvet Forum looking at ways to overcome chemical resistance in agriculture.
2. Spotted Wing Drosophila fruit fly biosecurity preparedness – given the high priority risk for the industry, it was recommended that a multi-industry Spotted Wing Drosophila biosecurity simulation exercise project be developed, as well as a review of available chemical control developments and a process to incorporate a crisis management plan into the Biosecurity Plan.
3. A presentation giving an overview of insights, recommendations and next steps required to develop the 2016-17 marketing program was provided to the advisory panel.
4. Future industry development and communications needs were discussed and a list of priorities was identified based on a recent Rubus Industry Development Online Survey Report.

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

Next steps

A process to set up a Raspberry & Blackberry Strategic Investment Advisory Panel (SIAP) is underway with applications for membership received and an independent interview process to occur in the near future. Following finalization of this process, a SIAP meeting should occur during September.

One of the key activities of the new SIAP will be to assist in the development of a new Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) for the industry. Opportunities for input from the broader raspberry & blackberry industry will be made available and publicised in the near future.

Contact

For more information please contact:

Brad Mills on: T: 03 9691 3523

E: Bradley.Mills@horticulture.com.au

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